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JOHN BULL

Vol. XV. No. 386 | SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1913. | ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

For meaning of this No. see page 612.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

£1,000

PAID FOR

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WORDS

SEE PAGE 638.

THE OATINE GIRL'S FREE OFFER.

This delightful Toilet Outfit, as illustrated, will be sent free by the Proprietors of the Oatine preparations to all sending 3d. in stamps (½d. stamps preferred) to help pay cost of postage and packing, and mentioning this paper.

The Outfit contains a bijou tin of OATINE FACE CREAM, which restores the natural oil to the skin which the alkali in soap and hard water is always removing. This oil is Nature's own protector and rejuvenator. If the skin is not assisted by the application of OATINE FACE CREAM, then it soon becomes old and sallow and unable to resist the ravages of the weather and the dirt and grime in the air. Oatine differs from its many imitators in this all-important fact that it does not stimulate or act on the skin in any artificial way. What it does is to keep the pores clear and fresh, and free from dust and grime, and at the same time restore to the skin the oil it needs if it is to be kept soft and velvety. It further feeds the skin and speedily removes wrinkles or ugly lines, for a wrinkled skin is a starved skin. **Remember, no other face cream can feed the skin and do this, hence the success of Oatine which, being free from animal fat, cannot grow hair.** All chemists stock OATINE in white jars, 1/1½. Then the reader will also receive :—

2. A tin of 'Oatine' Snow, a greaseless cream for the complexion, hands, &c., made from the same base as Oatine Cream, but absolutely greaseless. Invaluable for whitening the skin and as a protection from exposure. Of all chemists in white jars, 1/-

3. A full-size 2d. packet of Shampoo Powder.

4. A packet of oxygenated Tooth Powder.

5. A packet of invisible Face Powder.

6. A tin of 'Oatine' Salve for all skin wounds and abrasions.

7. A full-size 3d. Cake of the delightful 'Oatine' Toilet Soap, which is made from the finest materials, including the healing and cleansing properties of Oats, which are well known as being good for the skin. OATINE SOAP is sold by all Chemists in 10d. and 3d. tablets.

8. For men : A Packet of 'Oatine' Shaving Powder, which lathers quickly, giving a free, smooth, lasting, and agreeable lather which does not dry on the face.

9. A 50-page booklet entitled "A Beautiful Face a Matter of Culture," containing full directions for the use of the above, and a number of most invaluable hints for every woman who wishes to either attain or retain that perfection of beauty which is her natural right.

SEND FOR IT TO-DAY.

Write now, without delay, enclosing 3d. in stamps (½d. stamps preferred) to help pay cost of postage and packing, and you will receive the Outfit post free by return of post.

The OATINE CO., 270d, Oatine Buildings, Borough, London, S.E.

FOOTBALL SKILL CONTEST No. 4.

"JOHN BULL" ENTRANCE FORM.

Matches to be played Saturday, Nov. 8.

Cross out—in ink—what you think will be the losing club. For a draw do not cross out either club.

Derby County	**v.**	**Bolton Wanderers**
Manchester City	**v.**	**Sheffield Wednesday**
Bradford City	**v.**	**West Bromwich A.**
Liverpool	**v.**	**Burnley**
Aston Villa	**v.**	**Manchester U.**
Middlesbrough	**v.**	**Oldham Athletic**
Tottenham Hotspur	**v.**	**Sunderland**
Blackpool	**v.**	**Birmingham**
Bury	**v.**	**Clapton Orient**
Fulham	**v.**	**Woolwich Arsenal**
Huddersfield	**v.**	**Leeds City**
Leicester Fosse	**v.**	**Notts County**
Notts Forest	**v.**	**Grimsby**
Wolverhampton W.	**v.**	**Bradford**
Bristol Rovers	**v.**	**Gillingham**
Southampton	**v.**	**Crystal Palace**
Queen's P. Rangers	**v.**	**Reading**
Swindon	**v.**	**Northampton**
Cardiff	**v.**	**Southend**
Exeter City	**v.**	**Brighton & Hove**

I enter "JOHN BULL" Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the Editor's published decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

Signed.....

Address.....

.....

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Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

1. On the Entrance Form attached, cross out in ink, by running a pen through the names, the teams you think will lose. If you predict a DRAW do not cross out either team.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to **"John Bull," 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.,** mark envelope in top left-hand corner, **Football Competition No. 4** so as to reach us not later than first post Friday, November 7th.

3. The sum of £1,750 will be awarded to the competitor whose Entry Form contains the correct results, as published in the "Sporting Life," of all the matches given, played to a finish on November 8th. Should no entrance form be received giving all the correct results, £500 will be paid to the competitor whose coupon contains the largest number of correct results, and £100 to the sender of the Entrance Form containing the next highest number of correct forecasts. Further £50 cash will be awarded for the most correct forecast on a mauve coupon taken from "Mary Bull." Should the sender of a Mauve Coupon win or share the £1,750, or the £500 or the £100, the £50 "Mary Bull" prize will be awarded for the *next* most correct forecast on a mauve coupon.

4. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort. No correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted.

5. Any effort on which any alteration has been made will be disqualified.

6. In the event of a tie or ties, the Cash Prize of £1,750, or the Contingent Prizes of £500 and £100, as well as the special £50 Mauve Coupon prize, will be equally divided.

7. Our employees are strictly debarred from entering this contest.

THE CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7th.

DUPLICATE COUPON

The following duplicate list of the matches is printed solely for the convenience of competitors desirous of keeping a record of their efforts. It must on no account be sent in, and will not be accepted as proof of forecasts made on the Entrance Form.

Derby County	v. Bolton W.	Huddersfield	v. Leeds City
Manchester C.	v. Sheffield Wed.	Leicester F.	v. Notts County
Bradford City	v. W. Bromwich	Notts Forest	v. Grimsby
Liverpool	v. Burnley	Wolverhampton	v. Bradford
Aston Villa	v. Manchester U.	Bristol Rovers	v. Gillingham
Middlesbro'	v. Oldham	Southampton	v. Crystal Palace
Tottenham H.	v. Sunderland	Q. P. Rangers	v. Reading
Blackpool	v. Birmingham	Swindon	v. Northampton
Bury	v. Clapton Orient	Cardiff	v. Southend
Fulham	v. Woolwich A.	Exeter City	v. Brighton & H.

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XV. No. 386. Week ending Saturday, October 25th, 1913. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All **FINANCIAL, INSURANCE** *and* **SPORTING** *inquiries should be addressed to the* **CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.** *All other communications should be addressed to* **93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.**

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of "John Bull" for OCT. 18th, 1913, bearing on its Cover the Number **396,118.**

Apply THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

The Game.

At the moment, the leaders in the Party Game are playing for safety. Mr. Churchill, on the one side, and Mr. F. E. Smith, on the other, were sent out to reconnoitre the ground—and they "drew" Mr. Redmond! Now he and Mr. Asquith will have to find the way to Peace with Honour—and Office! Oh, yes, it will be done right enough. Self-preservation is the *only* law of Party politics.

Have You *Thought?*

Isn't it strange that the people for whose benefit the Home Rule Bill has twice been passed through the House of Commons and will ultimately be forced into law—*though not into operation*—have broken out into riot and revolt upon a matter entirely alien to politics, and of purely industrial concern? Like our own workers, these Southern Irishmen have lost faith in their political leaders, and have ceased to expect anything from the Party politicians—who have been assuring them that Home Rule is the blessed panacea which will bring sweet content to every Irish heart.

Sir John Simon.

In our Open Letter columns we address some personal words to the new Attorney-General. We now write these few lines, as the phrase goes, to put on record—in order that, in due course, our contemporaries may adopt it as their own—the prophecy that before very long, assuming the Liberals remain in office, he will abandon the Bar—having enjoyed its leadership—for high political office (probably the Home Secretaryship), and will be succeeded by Mr. Buckmaster as Attorney, and Mr. Hemmerde as Solicitor-General.

The Bench.

Some interesting reflections arise upon the recent judicial changes. First, it is amusing to notice how readily Mr. Ure, the great apostle of Land reform, sacrifices himself at the most critical period in the history of the movement, in order to accept a snug appointment for life. Candidly, we do not regard with any confidence the prospect of this Radical Boanerges being placed in the seat of judgment. He is constitutionally incapable of realising the remote possibility of there being two sides to any question. But the rules of the Party game entitle him to the post. We are glad to see Mr. Justice Phillimore sent to the Court of Appeal. A man of great intellectual parts he, too, is devoid of that breadth of view necessary for a safe judge, but amongst others he will, in time, find his level. Do you remember his violent protest, shortly after his appointment, against being called upon, as Vacation Judge, to make absolute a batch of Rules Nisi—as being "against the law of God"? He forgot that he was being paid to administer the law of man. But what about Mr. Justice Darling? Thank goodness, however, the King's Bench is not to lose him. The elevation of Sir Rufus Isaacs, and the promotion of Sir John Simon and Mr. Buckmaster, follow the lines we were the first to indicate, and the only journal to adhere to.

Literature and £ *s. d.*

It is said that the late Mr. Fletcher Robinson received £1,000 for a short story from a well-known novelist, who foresaw the possibility of utilising its plot for a long serial. Even higher remuneration has rewarded the efforts of Mr. Rudyard Kipling, the amount received for a narrative from his pen being at the rate of five shillings a word. But all records are thrown into the shade by Mr. Sydney B. Perry, who, in our 53rd "Bullets" Competition, obtains no less than £333 6s. 8d. per word!

Those Canadian Ships!

Do you remember our telling you that the Canadian offer of three battleships was all bluff? The only ships Canada will ever pay for will be her own, *to become some day part of the American fleet.* Kin-ship is all bunkum. She is as much French and German as she is British, and America is her natural ally and her natural market. It's our money she wants, and when she cannot get any more—well, wait and see!

Mr. Churchill's Dream.

Once more has Mr. Churchill held out the olive branch—we believe that is the correct phrase—to Germany. And once more will it be declined. Most Germans wear spectacles—and they are of a make which transforms olive branches into white feathers.

The John Bull League.

Look out for an important development in connection with this body. We told you, months ago, to "wait till the autumn, and see." And it is autumn.

Winner of our £1,000 "Bullets" Birthday Prize. See page 635.

The Very Long Vacation.

A glance at the Cause List of the Law Sittings, just opened, affords striking evidence of the fact that the "long" vacation has intervened since the last sessions of the Courts. The titles of some of the actions set down for re-hearing in the Court of Appeal recall episodes which are fast fading into the vistas of memory. The decision which imputed negligence to the White Star Company in respect of the foundering of the *Titanic*, the dubious parliamentary votes of Sir Stuart Samuel, the Corelli-Gray copyright dispute, and, of more recent origin, the Wootton-Sievier libel action, will all be re-echoed in the Appeal Court. Other notorious cases might be indefinitely multiplied. And the mischief of it all is that, in the bulk of the cases, vital interests have all the time remained in perilous suspense, to which in many instances, they doubtless succumbed. The houses of the lawyers must be set in order. Such scandalous delays deprive them of all claim to the title of Courts of Justice.

A Sensible Suggestion.

It is just possible that the dates of our moveable public holidays, hitherto settled according to ecclesiastic laws, may some day be fixed with reference to the whims of the lawyers. It is stated in well-informed circles that the report of the Judiciary Commission—which is "expected shortly," as the Reports of such august bodies always are—will recommend the fixing of the Easter recess, and the abolition of the Whitsuntide adjournment which would then be replaced by a fixed legal holiday on the second Monday in June. Such innovations, if carried into effect, would, of course, apply only to the procedure of the Law Courts; but the business community might do well to follow the example of the lawyers. The present inscrutable variations in the dates of Easter and Whitsuntide are an anomalous and inconvenient survival of by-gone ecclesiasticism, which surely need not be preserved if a better way can be devised. St. Lubbock's Day is already fixed. Why not the rest?

Lewis, the Leg Puller!

Apropos of the recent calculations of Mr. John Lewis, "the well-known Football legislator," on the subject of the chances against predicting correctly twenty football results, and with which we have already dealt in other issues, a mathematical reader sends us the following:—

> Please ask cranky critic, John Lewis, why, if the odds against a correct forecast are only "four thousand millions to one," it would require "two billion" coupons to be filled up? Then again you might like to tell him that two billion copies of John Bull at 1d. each, would cost £8,333⅓ millions or nearly *a thousand times more* than his paltry nine millions odd, and the "mathematician's" "fourteen millions and a few odd thousands" are very little better! Altogether he seems to be a very unreliable "legislator" and "mathematician."

We leave Mr. Lewis to work it all out again.

A Novel Salute.

We are predisposed in favour of Mr. Lister Drummond, the newly appointed Metropolitan Police Magistrate. He, at least, appears to be human. A little waif of seven was "charged" at the South Western Court with wandering homeless in the city streets. The cadi kindly invited the urchin to step up to the dais, whereupon he made to kiss the magisterial cheek. Mr. Drummond graciously bent to the salute, then joined heartily in the laughter which greeted the incident. A trifling episode perhaps—but "kiddies," like dogs, have a shrewd instinct in such matters. No power in earth or heaven would induce a baby to kiss—one or two magistrates we could name.

The Ideal Home.

For the last week or two the *Daily Mail* and certain ladies of high degree have had a great deal to say about the ideal home. Truth is, most women know what an ideal home is a long time before they see one at an exhibition, and the only drawback to their having one, as a rule, is coin current. Instead of these well meaning people troubling so much about the ideal home, it would be more to the point if they turned their attention to an ideal day créche, where in the winter months all the wretched little nippers, male and female, who now find their way to the parks, might go for shelter and warmth, and peradventure a hot drink. Should any of them accept this suggestion we trust they will take care that the funds are wholly devoted to the object, and not partly dissipated on the parasites and toadies who crop up with every charitable subscription list. To anybody with a human heart, it is distressing to see the little mites, often carrying or dragging along other little mites, swarming aimlessly in winter over the lanes and backways of London. Here is a way of getting hold of them, sorting them. and perhaps giving them a chance of growing up decent men and women.

Breaking Bounds.

When a girl of fifteen was charged at Willesden with breaking her recognisances under the Probation Act, it was stated that she had escaped from two "Homes" and, in one case, had recklessly scaled a high wall to effect her liberation. The youthful runagate was severely reprimanded by the magistrate and sent to a third "Home," where she will doubtless receive vigilant surveillance. It never seems to have occurred to anybody to inquire into the nature and conditions of the "Homes" from which the girl had fled. Her original offence was probably of a venial character, but it must surely be a gaol-like captivity, to escape from which a mere child will run neck-breaking risks. Perhaps Mr. McKenna will include these havens of refuge in the inquiry which he must institute into the methods of Industrial Schools.

"Beware of Substitutes."

A panel doctor having ordered one of our readers a truss, he wrote to the Health Insurance Commissioners at Buckingham Gate, who replied that he couldn't have a truss but he could have some calico, bleached or unbleached, crêpe, domet, flannel, india-rubber, muslin, plaster of Paris; some medicated boric, carbolic, cyanide, sal-alembroth, or sublimate gauze; likewise some cotton-wool or wood-wool; or, as the case might need, oiled silk, oiled paper, gutta-percha, tissue, adhesive plaster, ice-bags, or splints; and, last but not least, a catheter in gum elastic or soft rubber. If this isn't getting ninepence for fourpence, we don't know value for money. Why, at a pinch we do believe they would have offered him a reel of cotton and a jujube

Salvation Sunday.

A few days ago the *Morning Advertiser* published a letter from a Salvation Army officer stating his reasons for wishing to close public-houses on Sunday; the chief of them being to give the workers one day rest in seven. In curious contrast with this profession, there is the fact that at one Salvation Army Shelter, at any rate, they keep their employees working seven days a week of 84 hours, for which they pay 3s. 6d. wages. The kitchen staff work from 4 a.m. till 8 p.m. on Sundays—the week's labour totalling over 100 hours, the head cook receiving 5s., the second 1s. 6d., and the helper 6d. a week. Some people would call this sweating. The Salvation Army calls it remembering the Sabbath day to keep it holy

£1,750 waiting for Football Skill. See page 627.

The Wreck of Nan Archer.

Let it be said at once that we haven't much of an opinion of Mr. R. B. Dyke-Acland, K.C., Vice-Chairman of the Berks Quarter Sessions, either as a lawyer or a magistrate. One case before him will serve to illustrate his unbalanced judgment. A barmaid, 20 years of age, "whose parentage left much to be desired," and had drifted to an irregular life at Oxford, and had been sent into two Homes only to run away from them, attempted to end her wretched life in the river at South Hinckey. This was on July 22nd. From that date to the day of the Sessions, October 6th, she had been in prison; and yet because she would not go into another Home—"Homes," she said, "don't do any good in the least; they bring out the baser qualities in me"—Mr. Dyke-Acland sentenced her to three months' hard labour. Isn't it amazing that the only means this sapient magistrate could think of to redeem this utterly miserable girl from her life of disaster and ruin was to degrade her still further by thrusting her into prison with people viler than herself? In all the world she has probably never had one real friend who tried to lift her up in a human way. We know some of these "Homes for the fallen"—how utterly they fail. There is too much piety and too much penitentiary; and the sense of a piety that sickens, and discipline that is always reminding of servitude, is not for social types like Nan Archer. They need a sympathetic hand to guide them; a heart to win their confidence because it beats near to their own. Mr. Dyke-Acland thinks they need gaol.

Oh, For a Doncaster Bath!

When a foreman in a Doncaster tobacco factory sued the Doncaster Corporation for negligence at their baths, "John Blackburn, bath attendant, said there were only four on each towel at most, and they were head lice, not body lice"—while his Honour Judge Allen "held that the defendants had taken all necessary precautions." If the times were not so hard, we should certainly present the Corporation, the attendant and the Judge each with one of our renowned biscuits. As we understand the decision, four animals per bath towel is a very reasonable quantity to keep about the premises, and, confident that they are there, the attendant needn't worry as long as he doesn't allow them to multiply much beyond this average. Josh Billings long ago expressed his opinion that it was good for a dog to have a certain number of fleas, because they kept him out of mischief; apparently Judge Allen thinks it is good for a bather at the Doncaster Baths to take home with him from the Corporation towels a certain number of the other sort of vermin, for a similar reason. Our own opinion, which we express with the greatest confidence, is that the Corporation ought to keep things in the family.

Fire-eating Firemen.

Fire having broken out at the Farmers' Arms, a thatch roofed inn in the Cornish village of St. Columb Minor, the Newquay brigade was hastily summoned and promptly responded to the call. Their numbers were subsequently reinforced by a second contingent of fire-fighters, from the neighbouring village of St. Columb Major—and then the trouble began. The fat was in the fire. Differences of opinion between the rival brigades led first to heated words and then to hostile acts. Withdrawing their attention from the burning building, the combatants turned their hoses on each other, and it was not till every man was drenched to the skin that the white flag was hoisted. By this time the public-house was gutted, the furniture, however, having been saved by the energetic efforts of standers by. We trust the bellicose firemen, their warlike honours thick upon them, are proud of their day's work.

Allowed to Die.

Albert Davis, undergoing sentence in Bedford Gaol for larceny, embarked upon a "hunger strike" of the approved pattern and—died. With the more obvious bearings of the incident, we are not for the moment concerned, but there were disclosures at the inquest which seem to call for comment. Dr. Skelding, the Medical Officer of the prison, had for some time had the man under close observation. He knew that he was growing progressively weaker. Yet he never employed artificial feeding, neither did he report the case to the Home Office. The latter duty may have been more strictly incumbent upon the Governor, who, in extenuation of the omission, declared that no such report was necessary unless forcible feeding was resorted to. There seems to be something radically amiss somewhere. It is surely wrong that a man, albeit a convicted felon, should die by inches from a cause probably preventable, without the knowledge of the department vested with supreme responsibility in such matters. What a pity the man was not a suffragist!

"Blessed are the Poor."

The late Rev. Henry Bremidge, of Winkleigh, concerning whose treasure on earth we had something to say recently, is not without his defenders, and we are delighted to give them a voice by his grave. "Every year of his life," one who knew him well tells us, "he gave away far more than his stipend; his greatest joy was when he could help the poorest of the poor, not only in his own parish but anywhere else. He has been known to invite tramps to his table, and even to a bed at the vicarage. A parishioner whom nobody would visit because of his affliction was taken from his house and bathed, nursed and fed by him at the vicarage, where he died. His help to charitable institutions was enormous, and in all his public offices his financial support was most generous." Thus is the good word spoken; and we will only add that for unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall much be required; and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

Why Worry?

Finding that the customers liked their oranges to be of a rich outer tint, a French saleswoman has been in the habit of dipping them in mahogany stain, with considerable advantage to her business. For this "offence" she has now been smartly fined. But why? If people like mahogany-stained oranges, why shouldn't they have them? Does the stain on the rind affect the edible portion of the fruit? We propound the question in the purest spirit of scientific curiosity. The incident recalls a *mot* of Mr. Plowden's in a milk case, where a dealer had added colouring matter to the life-giving fluid. In the absence of proof of deterioration, the learned cadi declined to convict. His decision was based on the argument of analogy. "A woman does not alter her condition by putting a touch of rouge on her cheek," he declared. True, but the rouge may indirectly bring about a change!

The "Magnetic Healer."

Thus Mr. Evans, the "Magnetic Healer," of Newton, Wales, whose handbill was referred to in our "Letter Bag" of September 29th: "Dear Sir, JOHN BULL is rather stout about the stomach, is he suffering from cancer shall i send him a remedy Such as cured that diseas in Mrs. —— he need not call for diagnos i do not reqire asking the dozn or so qustions as the profesors do he can send me an article that he wears i will give him Diagnos from that article and curtain cure, yours truly, W. Evans." We are thinking of sending to him for Diagnos a lock of our hair—as soon as we have one to spare.

Great New Serial—"Slaves of the Limelight"—begins in "Mary Bull" this week.

Slow and Sure.

The wheels of justice are like those of God—they "grind slowly, but they grind exceeding small." It is now more than a decade since James Beaver, in a misguided hour, told lies and played truant, or, in the more sonorous language of the law, committed wilful and corrupt perjury and failed to answer to his recognisance at his Majesty's Assizes for the County of Buckinghamshire, holden at High Wycombe, in 1903. But Nemesis has overtaken James. He is undone. Apprehended at Exeter, he has been remanded for a police escort to the scene of his defaults. Incidentally, we should be interested to know by what approved method the fugitive's identification was effected, and by whom at the next Assizes will his alleged offence be proved? Meanwhile, we regard the incident as of happy augury. In the course of another decade, Scotland Yard may perchance have fathomed the mystery of the outrages for which George Edalji suffered wrongful imprisonment, and discovered the *real* perpetrator of the "Spotter" crimes.

Vicar's Shrewd Hit.

The goody-goodies of Delaval, Northumberland, have been trying to stop the Sunday playing of a band upon the links. It looked as though they were going to win, when the Rev. G. W. Jackson stepped into the breach and rallied the joy-bringers to the utter rout of the kill-joys. Said the popular parson in his stirring appeal: "Music is at all times a pleasure, there is a charm about it which inspires the soul, so that wherever and whenever it can reach the people, I say let it reach them. If we have any people who are opposed to Sunday music on the links, then let them stay away from it; and if they themselves find pleasure and refreshment from playing the piano or listening to the gramophone at home on Sunday then let them not deny pleasure and refreshment to others. Can anyone who is opposed to Sunday music on the links tell me what is the difference between a band playing on the links after Church is out, and an organ recital in Church after the service is ended?" And there is none to answer.

Wigan Police Administration.

Not in vain, it seems, have we given the Wigan Watch Committee a wigging for its method of Police administration. In the words of the Chairman, Alderman Layland, the matter "is going back to the Committee for further discussion, and I am prepared to give every facility as far as I can to get to the bottom of everything that may be thought to be going wrong." The Alderman is better late than never, and members should make no bones about taking fullest advantage of the offer—which is not so much voluntary as compulsory—and get this business straight, even if the corns of the Chairman and the Chief Constable have to be rather roughly treated. We suggest that the Borough Accountant should put his nose in first.

Priestcraft and Petulance.

What are we to say of a professor of religion—a professional professer—like the Rev. O. Rhodes, Vicar of Woodhorn, who "earnestly begs" in his parish magazine not to be asked to bury children who have not been baptised in the Church? "Surely," says he, "the person that baptises them should bury them if they die, and it is not fair to ask the Vicar to bury children he was not thought good enough to baptise." In these circumstances, we suppose all the kiddies who have been baptised in the parish where they were born are to be left unburied if they happen to die in Woodhorn, where their parents may have taken them to live. What a lot of difference there is sometimes between a parson and a Christian!

A Baby Wanted.

With rare enterprise, a Sunderland schoolmistress has approached the local Guardians requesting the loan of a baby, with the aid of which she may teach her female pupils "everything a young mother ought to know." The Poor Law authorities have declined to sanction any such experiment *in corpore vile*, presumably in the interests of the hapless babe. We have some sympathy with their decision but, at the same time, we commend the practical sagacity of the schoolmistress, who has thus shown a nice appreciation of the real educational requirements of her charges. We trust that in some way or other she may manage to overcome the initial difficulties in the way of her scheme, and to obtain the "apparatus" required. Speaking from the plenitude of our inexperience, we imagine there must be all the difference in the world between experiments with a live and lusty infant and with, say, a china doll, which won't change colour if you boil it in the bath and will maintain a seraphic silence no matter where you stick the pins.

Let There Be Light.

There is a little place about ten miles from town on the Central and Metropolitan Railways—Northwood, to wit—which is in a horribly benighted state, for the inhabitants are as them that grope in darkness. Some months ago the majority petitioned the Local Authority for light, but light is not yet forthcoming, and winter will soon spread its pall o'er the smiling land. Thus those who return from the City will still have to find their way home with torches, or take a chance of breaking their necks where the rough places are not made smooth or the crooked ways straight—though gas and electric mains are laid in all the roads. All of which proves that new local bosses are needed in Northwood. The question of the day, or rather the question of the night, is Light—so let Northwood rise in its might and demand it. It is not at all in the modern spirit for public authorities to depend wholly on the moon.

Pretty Prospect.

His Imperial Mightiness, Kaiser Wilhelm II., War Lord, Theologian, Artist, Musician, Orator, Numismatist, and General Connoisseur, has found still another outlet for his restless energies. He is now a full fledged restaurateur, owning a nice little café at Potsdam, where he is frequently to be seen and heard. Whether the establishment is open to the general public or reserved for its Imperial owner's friends and intimates we are unable to say; but it might aptly serve as a *rendezvous* for high diplomatic encounters. The picture of the Kaiser and the Czar discussing the peace of Europe over a bone devilled *a la* Carnegie would be irresistible in its appeal to the imagination.

Another Birmingham Reformer.

Our occasional contributor, Mr. Norman Tiptaft, is standing at the pending election for a seat on the Birmingham Council, having been nominated as "The Workers' Candidate" for the Soho Ward. Though a Socialist, in an article entitled "What I stand for" Mr. Tiptaft strikes the right note, to commence with, for he begins "Party politics are rotten." As our readers are aware, Mr. Tiptaft is not a mere iconoclast, being always prepared to put forward thoughtful and ingenious suggestions for the replacement of what he would destroy. We wish him luck. Men like Tiptaft are wanted in Birmingham—and elsewhere.

Six Months for a Penny.

The Sheffield Recorder has sentenced a tramway conductor to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour, for stealing a penny. Lucky for him it wasn't three ha'pence, or he would have got it hot.

Now is the time to "Bullet." Prizes value over £1,750 weekly.

Where Are They?

We have no sympathy to waste on the scoundrels who almost daily are receiving exemplary punishment in accordance with the provisions of the "White Slave" Act, but somehow or other none of the culprits bears the faintest resemblance to the "prosperous pimps" who loomed so large in Parliamentary debates while the statute was in the making. We may be told that the dread prospect of the "cat" has sufficed to drive this type of "white slaver" from our midst, and has thus fulfilled the most sanguine predictions of sponsors of the Act. If so, so far good; but whatever the reason, the alleged "White Slave Traffic" remains a fascinating theme for frenzied feminists and sensational journalists, to which the sordid stories unfolded week by week in the police-courts bear no sort of relation.

A Welcome Colleague.

We do not know who is "The Man in the Street" of the *Daily Sketch*, but he is all right! Listen to this: "After much hesitation the public has come to the conclusion that British politics is a farce; that the fight between the several parties is a sham fight." And this: "When the General Election comes, the Country Will Be In Danger, and you will be invited to save the country by voting for Scroggins, the nominee of the Liberal Caucus, or Groggins, the nominee of the Tory Caucus, or Proggins, nominee of the Labour Caucus." And this: "Have you read any of the recent Commons debates and noted how meaningless they all were?" Yes, we *are* getting on!

Method—or Charity?

Several readers have asked why we have not patted Canon Hough on the back for his goodness in visiting and assisting the family of a man charged with receiving stolen property from the rectory. We had not overlooked the case, but we couldn't help noticing that the reverend gentleman's solicitor said in Court that it was hoped that the kindness of the Canon would induce the prisoner to disclose the whereabouts of the stolen things! Not a bad bargain—if it came off!

RHYMES OF THE TIMES.

RAILWAY DANGERS.

["*In a single railway carriage on a largely-used system, one of the medical officers for Deptford discovered a specimen of every type of microbe known on earth.*"]

The dangers that passengers daily beset
Are appalling, as all of us know;
When starting, we're never quite sure we shall get
To the place where we're wishful to go:
The risks of collision, and chances that fire
Will reduce us to smoke on the way,
Are such as to make the most plucky perspire
As he starts on a journey to-day.

What's more, the antique apparatus designed
To summon the driver to stop
When danger besets us, we're likely to find
A most unreliable prop;
And now we've to reckon, it lately appears,
With the lapses of signalmen too—
This strange "human element" adds to our fears
And lessens our chance to "get through."

Oh, would we might say that these represent all
The risks that the traveller meets!
But others more horrible constantly crawl
On the floor and the cushions and seats!
There isn't a microbe to scientists known,
No germ of disease and of death,
That we do not arouse by our mere sitting down
And inhale in vast swarms with each breath!

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

["*Taking the Biscuit*" *has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. In this column we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselves by some unconventional utterance or act.*]

For stating in an account of the proceedings at a banquet in connection with the jubilee celebrations of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, that: "Like the DISHES *on the table, the* SINGING *was all* FROM CO-OPERATIVE THROATS,"

THE CO-OPERATIVE NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of a fire at Keady, at which a chain was formed to pass buckets of water from hand to hand, that: "This was done in the darkness through a BLINDING STORM OF RAIN AND WIND, *but* THIS *was* LESSENED BY THE ORDERS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE TOWN CLERK,"

THE BELFAST EVENING TELEGRAPH
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For suggesting, according to the "Lincolnshire Echo," at the meeting of the local Standing Joint Committee of Quarter Sessions and County Council that: "They sent to Canon Hutton an expression of their DEEP REGRET *for his* SPEEDY RECOVERY,"

MR. W. EMBLETON FOX, J.P.,
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For issuing a notice to owners or occupiers of premises in Melrose Avenue, Mitcham, containing the following sentence: "The entire surface of the carriageway to be covered with a sufficient coating of BLINDING *material prior to rolling,"*

MR. E. S. GOWEN
(Clerk to the Croydon Rural District Council)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing in the "Wine and Spirit Trade Record" "Advertiser SEEKS BIRTH *in wine cellars,"*

"C. J. B." (169, Sherrard Road, Forest Gate)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For publishing a story containing the sentence: "'It's de . . de tobacco smoke, or some ob dose tings,' exclaimed Pete, brushing the back of his HEAD *across his* EYES,"

THE MARVEL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For giving as one of the reasons why certain brands of whisky are "absolutely the best value on the market": "Freight by steamer—costing 150 PER CENT. LESS THAN *carriage by rail,"*

MESSRS. THOMAS PEATLING AND SONS
(Whisky Blenders, King's Lynn)
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of a recent race: "Off at 4.45. OWNER TRAINED *by R. Wootton,"*

THE ARGUS (Brighton)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating in its account of a recent mishap to a Midland express that: "*FORTUNATELY *the train* LEFT THE METALS, *although when it was pulled up* ONE WHEEL *was off the rails,*

THE EASTERN EVENING NEWS (Norwich)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

HALF-A-CROWN FOR EVERY "BISCUIT" PUBLISHED.

We give 2s. 6d. to the sender of every "Biscuit" published. Should the same item be forwarded by several competitors, preference will be given to the one whose letter is first opened. In forwarding newspaper cuttings, sufficient must be sent to identify the name of the paper and date of issue. Envelopes must be addressed to "The Biscuit Editor."

Are you collecting the Pen Coupons on page iii. of cover?

WHY NOT HANG McKENNA, TOO?

WAS THE PIT DISASTER PREVENTABLE?—OUR PREDICTIONS AGAIN FULFILLED.

Last week we placed Sydney Buxton in the dock' charging him with criminal incompetence in respect to the vital duties of his bogus Board, and produced evidence proving him guilty on all counts. From the wide circle of our correspondents not a solitary voice has been raised in palliation of his gross sins of omission. His department stands utterly discredited, fit object of the scorn and execration of an outraged people.

And now, again, we are compelled to assume the rôle of prosecutor. It is not our pleasure to impeach Ministers of the Crown, but in the face of the stark tragedy of the Senghenydd Pit, the truth must be spoken. The heart-rending pathos of the disaster has momentarily hushed the voice of criticism. Sentiment, sincere and understandable, has held the field. But the time and occasion for plain speech have arrived. Call the accused! Reginald McKenna stand forth!

Here is the formal plea which has been entered :—

> *The Home Secretary has heard with profound grief of the terrible accident at the Universal Colliery. . . He shares in the terrible anxiety and grief of all whose husbands, children or relatives are in the mine.*

Except upon one assumption, this message to the broken hearts of the stricken valley is the hollowest of mockeries, and its proffered sympathy an empty sham. It must be proved beyond shadow of doubt that the Home Office had taken every possible precaution to avert disaster at the Senghenydd Pit. It must be shewn that every protective resource of the law had been called into operation. Only so can the Home Secretary's message be regarded as the heart-felt utterance of an honest man.

And here, as in the case of maritime disaster, let us recall our own repeated warnings. The Coal Mines Regulation Act, from which the Home Office Inspectors of Mines derive their present powers, became law in 1911. Again and again in 1912 we expressed the gravest doubts as to the extent to which coal-owners had complied with its salutary provisions. Our remarks were based upon reliable expert information. We dealt with the perils of pit cages devoid of efficient safety catches, of defective shaft ropes, of inflammable gas, naked lights, broken lamps and the rest. In June of this year we published an article from the pen of a colliery manager who, speaking with the fullest knowledge, preferred a damning indictment against certain coal-owners in respect of their shameful neglect of the simplest precautions. Our contributor made it abundantly clear that the neglect of many mineowners to furnish safety appliances was well-known to the Home Office Inspectors, who evinced a culpable reluctance to exercise such powers as are conferred upon them by the Act. Then came the disaster at the Langtree Pit, Wigan—clearly traceable to the absence of safety appliances. Again we uttered the familiar note of warning. It was taken up, on behalf of the colliers, by Mr. John Robertson, Vice-President of the Scottish Miners' Federation, who publicly declared :—

> Nearly two years ago an Act of Parliament placed the onus upon the coal owners to provide rescue appliances at the collieries. I believe that, with the exception of Fife, nowhere in Scotland has anything been done towards carrying out the provisions of the Act. As far as sixty or seventy thousand Scottish miners are concerned, no provision has been made.

We challenged the truth of this grave utterance. No denial was forthcoming. It thus remains a cardinal feature in our impeachment of Home Office administration. Then came the shocking disaster at the Cadder Pit, one of the Carron collieries. As we had expected and predicted, the official inquiry convicted the coal-owners of gross neglect, in that they had failed to observe the requirements of the Act of 1911. Once more we strove to lash the supine officials into some semblance of intelligent activity. We said :—

> *The Home Office should at once institute searching investigation as to how far the requirements of the law have been similarly flouted. It is high time that Government departments were armed with summary powers for the enforcement of mandates devised for the safeguarding of human life.*

This warning was printed in our issue of October 11th last. Three days later, with swift and terrible suddenness, came the awful holocaust of Senghenydd, in grisly confirmation of our worst fears and our gloomiest prophecies.

The facts are slow in leaking through. There appears to be but one telephone in the Aber Valley—a striking instance of the absence of the most elementary provision for emergency. Reports must, then, be accepted with reserve, but the following facts appear already to be credibly established. Each bears its own unmistakable significance :—

1. The Senghenydd Colliery has long been known locally as a "gassy" pit, in which exceptional precautions were essential if loss of life was to be averted.

2. At a period variously estimated, but generally said to be three days prior to the catastrophe, colliers detected the presence of inflammable gas in dangerous quantities.

3. On the eve of the disaster the pit was observed to be "fiery," and a number of miners consequently refused to descend the shafts.

4. The rescue appliances at the colliery appear to have been inadequate; so that, but for the promptitude of willing helpers who scoured the district for auxiliary apparatus, the loss of life might have greatly exceeded its present appalling total.

In the teeth of these grave suspicions, fast hardening into certainties, who dare say that the Senghenydd disaster falls within the category of inevitable tragedies?

The Coal Mines Regulation Act of 1911, so shamefully flouted by coal-owners in Scotland at the Carron collieries and elsewhere, affords ample safeguards against the perils we have indicated. It is not so much the law as its administration which is at fault. The Act requires the appointment of firemen and examiners in each mine, whose duty it shall be periodically to search for gas and regularly to report. Section 64 reads :—

> The firemen, examiners, or deputies of a mine shall within such time not exceeding two hours immediately before the commencement of work in a shift inspect every part of the mine . . . so far as the presence of gas, ventilation, roof and sides are concerned.

Section 67 makes provision for the reception of reports from firemen and examiners, and enacts that upon the discovery of dangerous gas in any part of a pit the workmen shall at once be withdrawn from the zone of peril. Is it conceivable that these requirements were observed to the letter during the fateful hours immediately preceding the tragedy of Senghenydd? And, if not—who shall hang?

How say you, Reginald McKenna, are you guilty or not guilty? It is useless for you to plead lack of personal knowledge. You are the responsible head of a great Public Department, and the nation cannot hold you guiltless of the errors or defaults of your subordinates.

Answer upon your conscience! Shew us cause why you should not be impeached—and hanged!

THE WELSH SLAVERY.

WELCOME AID IN THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FIGHT.

Apropos of our recent article upon the system of Indentured Labour which so sadly disfigured the administration of the Industrial School system, we have received an interesting communication from the Rev. Gwilym Davies, M.A., of the Welsh School of Social Service. Mr. Gwilym Davies intimates that this society, of which he is the Honorary Secretary, is keenly alive to the evils to which we have insistently directed public attention. At a session of the School held at Llandrindod Wells on September 4th, the whole position of the industrial school boy on Welsh farms was exhaustively reviewed in the light of an admirable paper read by Mr. Davies, of which he has been good enough to send us a copy. The reverend gentleman has studied the problem closely and at first hand, and so deeply did he impress his hearers, that a resolution, urging upon the Government "the pressing need of an inquiry into the modes of disposing of industrial school children," was unanimously and enthusiastically passed. It is noteworthy that this motion was put forward and cordially recommended to the gathering by Mr. D. Lleufen Thomas, Stipendiary Magistrate for the Rhondda district.

We take the liberty of quoting a passage to which Mr. Gwilym Davies specially directs our attention. The facts are within his personal knowledge:—

> One day last June a boatman saw a body coming down the river, near the Quay at Carmarthen. The body was that of an industrial schoolboy who had been "missing" since April 11th. At the inquest the lad's employer said that he had sent him to look after a lamb which had strayed. The river was in flood and the lad was told to cross over by the bridge. He never saw the lad after that. He mentioned his disappearance to the police and concluded that the deceased had left the district. He had no idea that the lad had been drowned until the body was discovered. The "boy" was nineteen to twenty years of age and was paid £10 and his washing. Asked by the coroner whether he had communicated with the relatives, the farmer replied that he did not like to open the lad's box, but he thought he had "a mother somewhere." The jury returned a verdict of "found dead." That boy was buried, not at the cost of the farmer with whom he lived and for whose property he seems to have given his life, but at the cost of the parish. A friend of mine officiated at the funeral, and here is his account of what happened there:—"The coffin was so made that it just held together, the handles were of cord, and there was no mark on the lid, no name to indicate who was being buried. Two of the undertaker's men were at the side of the grave with the cemetery keeper, and the services of a fourth man, who happened to be near, were requisitioned, to enable the body to be lowered decently to its grave. As far as I could gather, there were no friends from the farm at which the lad worked."

A nameless helot in a pauper's grave—yet with "a mother somewhere"! The incident throws one more lurid flash upon the sinister conditions which obtain. The shameful scandal must end. Now, Mr. McKenna!

LAGGING LUGGAGE.

COMPANIES' CAVALIER TREATMENT AND ITS REMEDY.

During the last few weeks we have received many grumbles concerning the unsatisfactory way the various railways have dealt with holiday-makers' luggage. Practically all the companies advertise inviting prospective patrons to "save trouble by sending your luggage in advance." Many complain that trunks so forwarded arrived several days late—in fact, one reader informs us that his luggage arrived just in time for him to take it back. In this case, however, the advertisement proved to be literally correct—he was saved the trouble of unpacking! The following reply, which the North-Eastern Railway sent to a complaint is not without humour:—

> We very much regret the delay and inconvenience you have suffered, but the Company are not liable for it, *no undertaking being given at time of acceptance to land the luggage at destination by a certain time.*

This ingenious contention would not, however, avail the Company, as it would be liable for damages if it failed to deliver the luggage within a reasonable time, despite the absence of the undertaking referred to.

A VERY STAGY EXIT.

AN EASTBOURNE SENSATION AND ITS SEQUEL.

The highly-respectable residential town of Eastbourne has lately been staggered by a person styling himself Cecil Edward Louis Stuart Drouet D'Erlow, and claiming to be a count, whose "return from the dead" was described in exciting narrative in recent issues of the London and local press. D'Erlow has, however, now made a diplomatic exit, on the advice of his late employer. He was missing from Eastbourne on the night of September 24th, 1911, some of his clothes being discovered on the beach the next morning. Just recently he returned, and naturally his appearance occasioned surprise and curiosity. He at one time acted as a pedlar in one of the fashionable thoroughfares, though his speech and bearing spoke eloquently of better days. At the time of his disappearance the influence of a local business man had secured him a clerkship to a decorator.

D'Erlow had been an actor years ago, and his theatrical experience may have assisted him in posing as the hero of a remarkable adventure, for he explained his absence by stating that he had gone for a bathe on the night of his disappearance, became dazed after swimming a short distance, and remembered no more until he awoke to consciousness and found himself lying in a private hospital at Hamburg. He was told that he had been picked up some miles out at sea, apparently dead.

D'Erlow told the police an even more wonderful tale. He said that he had intended committing suicide, and had taken a powerful drug before entering the sea.

The adventurer's amazing effrontery could not, however, enable him long to counteract the revelations of his past, which were being brought to light, and when his late employer stated that irregularities had been discovered in D'Erlow's books after his disappearance; that he had information of his movements in various parts of this country, and in Scotland, from the time the clothes were deposited on the beach, and was in a position to disprove the adventurer's thrilling story, D'Erlow departed, and Eastbourne has probably seen the last of a man of colossal impudence, who appears to be obsessed with himself.

"HALVES, PARTNER!"

A MYSTERIOUS MESSAGE FROM FINSBURY PARK.

We have lately devoted some attention to the ways of "private enquiry agents." The little by-paths by which they pick up a living often show considerable ingenuity. At 232, Seven Sisters Road, Finsbury Park, N., will be found the offices of Godfrey Stewart, Hartridge & Company, who on their letter paper offer their services for "Confidential enquiries; Divorce; Watching, Tracing, etc." and also describe themselves as "Business Staters Enquirers"—whatever that may mean. Messrs. Stewart & Co. are apparently circularising persons bearing the very common name of Hall, with the following epistle:—

> While making enquiries in the general course of our business, we came across an announcement, and on investigation, we have reason to believe that the matter possibly refers to you. Accordingly we give herewith a curtailed text of same, and venture to suggest that you should in your own interest, make enquiries. It was inserted in a prominent London paper, and was as follows:—
>
> HALL, . . . of . . . , Next of kin should communicate with Messrs. . . . . Solicitors, of . . . .
>
> If this matter interests you, as we feel sure it will, we shall be pleased upon receipt of our customary fee of 3s. 6d. to forward you the full particulars in our possession, including name and date of the paper in which the announcement appeared, also name and address of the Solicitor acting in the matter, and to whom you should apply.

This is an exceedingly ingenious document: though it may have been sent to thousands of Halls, the matter may, of course, "possibly" refer to the particular one who forwarded it to us—but it is long odds that it does not. Again—still using their cautious term—"possibly" the advertisement was inserted at so remote a period that it is now hopeless to attempt to recover the money. Our advice to the recipients of the proposition would be that, instead of forwarding the professional 3s. 6d. for the letter of advice, they should offer the Finsbury Parkers a share

Three words win £1,000. See "Bullets," page 635.

FATHER'S PANTS CUT DOWN FOR WILLIE.

THE MASSACRE OF THE MIDDLE CLASSES.—SMALL TRADERS STRANGLED BY STORES—POLITICAL IMPOTENCY DUE TO SNOBBISHNESS.

By M. Appleton.

Fifty years ago, the middle-class man, were he grocer tailor, draper or candle-stick maker, was able to send his son to a good private school. In the fullness of time that son entered his father's business, becoming a partner a few years after, and eventually taking the old man's place as sole proprietor. He married and begat children, became honoured from Dan to Beersheba, and the news papers fell into the habit of assuring him that he was the back-bone of the nation, that in him were centered and epitomised all the graces and virtues.

To-day from every corner of the land the cry of the retailer, the middle-man, and the small trader ascendeth to heaven. He is no longer able to send his son to a "good private school." His business is a worthless legacy—the paternal "pants" are worn out.

Sire's Shoes Useless.

When the son grows old enough to work, the father does not put him into his own business; for he realises that it will be impossible for one business to support two families, especially as it is more than probable that that business is yearly threatened with extinction by some big limited liability firm owning perhaps hundreds of shops. So that the middle-class man's son usually enters the employ of one of these huge limited companies. If he is "a good lad," and refrains from backing horses or spending his substance in riotous living, he may attain to a salary of £2 a week at the comparatively early age of thirty-five.

Now, one—perhaps the chief—cause of this state of affairs is to be found in the rise and growth of the multiple-shop movement. Within the last two decades manufacturers have discovered the beauty of combination, and the desirability of manufacturing on a large scale. With this fact in view they have persuaded thousands of people to lump their capital together and take a share of the profits in the form of dividends.

The Game of Grab.

Having discovered the beauty of combining to manufacture, it is only to be expected that the felicity of combining to sell would eventually dawn upon them. It is not very difficult to see the tremendous advantage the retail company possessing many branches has against the tradesman possessing only one shop.

For instance, the small shopkeeper cannot afford to advertise on the same scale as his rival, the large firm.

To-day, when we get Royal Academicians to design our advertisement posters, it is not to be wondered at that the expense of advertising is one of the most serious items in connection with any business which lives by attracting the custom of the man in the street. Then, again, the small shopkeeper cannot afford elaborate fittings, such as mahogany counters and so forth, and expert window dressers; and, worse than all, he cannot buy as cheaply as the multiple-shop man.

Where the small tradesman spends £50, his rival will spend £500 or even £5,000, and the latter consequently gets in at a cheaper rate. It naturally follows that the small man cannot afford to sell as cheaply as his rival. He often does sell as cheaply because he has to, with the result that he gets no profit on many of his commodities.

The multiple-shop company insists upon cash payment, and is able to enforce such terms, which permits it to pay cash for what it buys and so reap the advantage of the larger discount. About the only advantage which the small man offers the consumer against the big firm is some little latitude in the matter of credit. This policy makes it necessary for the small man to put so much aside every year for bad debts.

But perhaps "the most unkindest cut" of all is here: after a firm has prospered sufficiently to enable it to support a large number of branches, it cuts the middle-man's profit altogether and begins to manufacture.

This factor is duly affecting that large body of middle-class men who make a living as commercial travellers.

Thirty years ago, the progress of the commercial traveller upon his journey possessed some of the attributes of the State journey of an Indian potentate. The "commercial" put up at the best hotel in the place, and intimated that he would be at liberty to book orders between the hours of ten and five. The customers called, dined with him, and after having paid their accounts, were delighted to give him further orders.

Humble "Ambassadors" of Commerce.

Nowadays a "commercial" is an artist in cutting down expenses to the lowest possible limit. Needless to say, he does not stay at the best hotel in the town. The part of the Indian potentate has been taken from him and is now played by every prospective customer.

And what is true wth respect to the commercial traveller applies equally to the shopkeeper, the small manufacturer, and, in fact, to almost every branch of trade in which the middle-class man used to engage and prosper. Capital tends to become concentrated more and more in the hands of a few colossal firms; and should commerce develop upon its present lines, we must look forward to a state of affairs where the nation will be divided into two parts, consisting of a small plutocracy on the one hand and a huge propertyless proletariat on the other, the middle-classes having disappeared.

It is a truism of political economy that economic power always precedes and dominates political power, and just as we find the middle-classes struggling to keep their heads above water in the business world, so do we find them struggling for very existence in the political sphere.

Few politicians to-day care two tinker's objurations about the opinions and desires of the middle-class man. Of course, the pretence of representing him is still kept up, but when it comes to a question as to who is to foot the bill he soon finds where the shoe pinches, and how much his representation is worth to him.

Paltry Pride and Penniless Pockets.

The proletariat are now sufficiently strong and independent to resent any further burden of taxation, and to make their power felt at the polls. The plutocracy and landed gentry are sufficiently powerful to prevent any appreciable increase in their share of taxation, and so it falls out that the middle-classes fall between two stools.

The cause of this is not very far to seek, although few have the courage to proclaim it. It lies in the fact that your average middle-class man is more or less of a snob. He is perfectly convinced that unless a candidate's income is at least a hundredfold that of his own that candidate is no fit person to represent him. If he would clear his mind of snobbery and think for a moment, he would see that more often than not the interests of the wealthy individual are diametrically opposed to his own.

Then, of course, the middle-class man is too much of a gentleman to think of joining any association which might approximate in any degree to a trades union. Even when a few of the more pugnacious of his fellows take the trouble to form a ratepayers' association, these receive little support from the main body of middle-class men. And so rents, rates and taxes mount merrily higher and higher, and there is no man to stay them. Supposing a municipality requires a new Town Hall, the middle-class man is called upon to foot the bill. Should the City Fathers take it into their heads to experiment with electric light or baths they may do so with a frolicsome spirit, well knowing that they have the incomes of the middle-class citizens to draw upon. Municipal extravagance such as would have made a Roman Emperor wilt goes unchecked simply because the middle-class man is so taken up with filling his role of "the back-bone of the nation" that he has no time to cross the street and enter his protest at the polls. This will be plain to anyone who likes to obtain particulars as to the number of voters on the municipal registers who never record their votes.

It certainly seems as though the historian of the future will be able to write the middle-class man's epitaph somewhat as follows: "Here lies the body of a perfectly respectable middle-class man. He was too much of a gentleman to set his house in order, and so was given notice to quit."

CRANKS AND CASH.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS' MADNESS—AND METHODS.

A one-time canvasser for the International Tract Society, Ltd. (under which name the Seventh Day Adventists publish their literature), sends us the following account of the methods used by their itinerant vendors when peddling the denominational literature.

The books are printed in good style and nicely bound and illustrated, the binding and illustrations being two of the main selling points. The canvassers travel in twos or threes, securing lodgings in some country town and systematically beating round for orders. They ferret out the most prominent Christian workers, ministers, local preachers, etc., and calling on these, represent themselves as working for "The Tract Society," which of course each denomination takes to mean its *own* tract society; if any questions are asked, it is stated that the work is of an evangelistic colporteur character common to all denominations! Many of the canvassers are students at the S. D. A. College, and these say that they are earning a scholarship for a "Missionary Training School," thereby inducing many devout Christians, who really do not want the books, to take them, and thus help promising young people to get a training for missionary work.

Every effort is made to cover their real purpose—the making of proselytes to what they are pleased to call "the truth," and any difficult question is evaded or passed over in some way. Should the canvasser come across someone who has had previous experience of the Seventh Day Adventists and their methods, he makes a desperate effort to deliver the books on order as soon as possible, as he is, of course, aware that when the misrepresentations are exposed it will be impossible to get rid of them. One worker who had on hand orders for over a hundred books, on it becoming known that he was a Seventh Day Adventist, lost the whole of that delivery, and the poor beggar, who had been working hard for a long time, had to go without all his earnings.

As indicating the mental attitude of the heads of the sect, we may say that a young worker who expostulated against the system of secrecy and misrepresentation, was told that "Christ did not tell the people everything," saying, "I have many things to tell you but ye cannot bear them now"—the implication being that the S. D. A.'s were on a higher spiritual plane than the people from whom they sought to obtain money. The canvasser in question, however, had come to do his own thinking, and soon quitted. This policy is also carried out in their tent efforts up and down the country. They first preach general evangelical subjects, such as are dealt with elsewhere, and then when they have secured a good regular attendance begin to take up the subjects which distinguish them from other Christians, and which they term "the truth."

One of their strongest features is the tithing system, even widows in receipt of parish relief pay a tenth of their starvation pittance to the ministry.

NOISY POLICEMEN.

HOW TO ABATE A NOCTURNAL NUISANCE.

The maxim that "An Englishman's home is his castle" might well be emblazoned on the walls of every police station. A correspondent who lets weekly lodgings complains that his premises are invaded at all hours of the day and night by plain clothes policemen. The place is not registered as a common lodging-house, and the police have, therefore, acted in excess of their authority. Such unwarrantable intrusions are calculated to lower its prestige, and must speedily lead to the ruin of its proprietor's business. Our correspondent should demand to know by what warrant and with whose authority the police enter upon his premises. Failing a satisfactory reply, he might apply to the stipendiary. As a temporary expedient we suggest a few good bolts on the inside of the door, and, for the sake of peace and quietness—the removal of the knocker. He need fear no violence. Constables may not break doors except to execute a warrant.

THE NAPOLEON OF SOUTHAMPTON ROW.

CAUTIOUS CAPITALIST SPURNS SPERNI'S SLATES.

In a recent issue of the *Daily Telegraph* appeared the following alluring advertisement:—

> Gentleman required for important position. Duties clerical. £4 weekly and other advantages. References. £200 to £300 investment required. Address, etc., etc.

An answer resulted in a letter from J. Sperni, Director of Ferro-Slates, Ltd., 11, Southampton Row, followed by an interview at which very tempting statements were made. Before parting with his money, however, the applicant took the precaution of looking up the file of the Company at Somerset House, and discovered that its finances were of so extraordinary a character that an investment in its shares would be extremely imprudent—even to obtain "£4 weekly and other advantages."

Ferro-Slates, Ltd., was registered as recently as March 27th last, with a capital of £1,000 in £1 shares, of which 499 were allotted to Sperni as purchase price of the business and 398 are held by Miss Felomena Sperni, of 39, St. John's Mews, W.C. However, any deficiency in cash it was possibly intended to make up by means of credit, for it is laid down that the Company's borrowing powers are "unlimited"! Sperni rules the roost. He is Governing Director for life, and should his despotic powers be challenged it is provided that he may at any time require any Director to resign. He is cautious with the cash; he is to receive a salary of £250 a year, *payable weekly*—and he doubtless sees that he gets it, for he has power to act in all matters *and sign cheques* as if he were sole Director. Naturally, such an all-round—though some may describe him as one-sided—man is valuable; his life is therefore insured for £500, the Company paying the premiums. Admirers of talent will rejoice to know that even in the event of the demise of his Company this protean promoter has protected himself—for he has taken debentures for £500, covering all the property and assets, including capital, and should anything happen will, therefore, be in a position to resume possession of the business, whatever it was—having, in the meantime, had a nice, quiet little time working out different sums on his slate, in which £4. £250÷52 and X—£300 will doubtless be found.

ANOTHER BALE BANDIT.

WATERFORD WOMAN AND FUSTY FOREIGNER.

We have all heard of the man who, having been knocked down and injured by a hearse, and received compensation from the undertaker for his physical hurt, sought to get a further and more substantial payment to recompense him for the damage to his dignity, asserting that had he been knocked down by a motor-car he would not so much have minded, but, as it was, he was the laughing-stock of his workmates. We think much the same view might be held by a Britisher who has been "dusted down" by a foreigner. The following advertisement appeared in a religious paper:

> A Few After Sale Bales to Clear, for 2s. 6d. only, worth 10s., containing blouse length, pillow cases, curtains, ladies' purse, ladies' belt, handkerchiefs, 20 articles.—Stanley, 1, Newcastle Street, London, E.C.

Thinking to get a bargain, a Waterford correspondent sent a postal order for 2s. 6d. on September 18th. Not receiving the bale in due course, she naturally wrote and asked the reason, but no notice was taken of the letter. She then communicated with the Postmaster-General, asking if the postal order had been cashed, and was told that it had been, on September 19th, by a man signing himself "G. B. Nason."

We therefore paid a visit to Newcastle Street and found at Number 1 a filthy room on the third floor, in climbing to which we were assailed by the fumes of grilled red herrings and rancid fat. The door was answered by a dirty foreigner, and upon our asking whether Mr. Stanley was in, we were told that he left a month ago, but that the "business" had been taken over by Nason & Co. "Stanley" is probably "Nason"; he is also apparently Swindlerwinski, or Banditpopoff.

Your Football Skill may win you £1,750. See page 627.

COUNTERFEIT COIN.

SOVEREIGN SUPPLY STORES SWINDLING SIMPLETONS.

A perusal of the Sunday newspapers will show an increasing flock of the "sent, on receipt of deposit, to approved customers" hawks. One of the pioneers is the Sovereign Supply Stores, of 435, Strand, who advertise 60s. watches for 20s., the bargains being made more marvellous by the offer of the goods on these attractive terms. The Sovereign Supply Stores seem, to judge from the heading on their literature, to be proud of the alliteration—we have, therefore, carried it further in a way which will, we are convinced, be approved by thousands of people who have had dealings with them. A Pontypridd man gives us a typical instance of his treatment at their hands. He sent a 2s. deposit, but, instead of the watch, received a form to be filled in with answers to all kinds of personal questions. These were replied to in a manner which would have satisfied any business firm, but the Sovereign Supply people do not conduct a business, preferring to run a mug-trap. The first catechism not being sufficient to part the victim from his money, another printed communication was sent, which ran :—

> We regret that the Directors do not see their way to give you credit without providing us with a guarantor, for which purpose we enclose you the necessary form, which kindly have filled up and signed by one of your friends who must be a householder. Should you not care to do this and thus take your friends into your confidence, it would be necessary to pay the whole of the amount by weekly or monthly instalments, at your convenience prior to the goods being dispatched, but in *your* case the Directors will be pleased to meet you half-way and have given instructions for the goods to be dispatched to you by registered post as soon as you have paid one-half of the total amount, and you can then pay the balance by the agreed instalments AFTER YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE GOODS. We think you will admit that we are by this concession treating you in a generous and equitable manner.

It will be noticed that—probably wishful that the naturally enraged recipient should bear in mind the adage that a corporation has no body to be kicked—the rascals now pose as a limited company. The attempt at pushing off is here rather too obvious, the pointing out of the unpleasantness of disclosing to friends the inability to pay a couple of pounds down being unworthy of such clever tricksters. However, the guarantee enclosed—which must be signed "by a householder," who is required to state his place of employment, the amount of his wages, and when he gets them!—is such as to knock on the head any hopes which may still have been entertained of procuring goods on the easy terms. It reads :—

> I have known Mr..... of ..... for .... years, and I hereby *guarantee* that he shall faithfully perform his promise to pay the £.... s..... d. by weekly monthly instalments of ..... until he has paid you the full amount due to you. In the event of his failing in any single payment by three days, *I promise to pay on demand from you the whole of the unpaid balance.*

It is, of course, impossible to obtain the signature of any householder to such a form—the only person likely to sign it would reside in a lunatic asylum!

Applications for the return of the 2s. thus fraudulently obtained are met with the reply :—"It is impossible for us to conduct our business on the plan of sending your money back when you fail to comply with our usual business regulations," and the offer of a brass chain (christened "Castilian Gold") on payment of a further sixpence.

For coolness, these sharks are hard to beat. On their literature they boldly state, "Our system of credit encourages thrift." It does—it is extremely unlikely that anyone once bitten by them will ever again fall into the same snare. Another humorous passage is, "It is our proud boast that we have not one dissatisfied customer, Why is this? Because if from any cause whatever a watch purchased from us goes wrong, we at once exchange it." It is, of course, extremely improbable that a watch is ever sold; the gang playing this game do not, apparently, consider the thousands they swindle out of deposits as customers at all! Some day, however, they may have to change their view, should one of their victims set the police in motion. They will then find that they have run up against a very ugly one indeed.

DAVIES' DIRTY DODGE.

A VANITY BAG BY A VARIETY BOUNDER.

Vanity is a string upon which many sharpers play. One remarkable for his power of "touch" is a certain Joe Davies, manager of a concern styling itself "The London and Provincial Theatrical, Variety and Concert Agency," of 86, Goldsmith Street, Nottingham, and professing to have branches at London, Birmingham, Leicester, Manchester and Liverpool, though its stationery gives no more precise address, and significantly states that "Commissions must be paid to Nottingham office."

Three months ago an ambitious Finsbury Park mother replied to an advertisement in a theatrical paper, and shortly afterwards received a call from a representative of the Agency. He assured her that if she paid his firm £5 at once they would provide her daughter with a ten weeks' engagement at a salary of not less than £5 a week, this attractive employment to start on the following Monday, as they had to complete a contract. Although the extravagance of the terms for an inexperienced singer would themselves have been a warning to one more sophisticated, the good woman sent the money, and obtained a receipt stating that the amount was "to be returned if we fail to book Miss — as arranged." From that day till a short time ago the Agency has been bombarded with requests for the fulfilment of the contract, replying with various evasions, mostly written on post cards—such as, "Will you please let us know if you can wait until Thursday or Friday, as we were not able to settle the matter till last week as we thought?" "Representative calling to-morrow"; "Regret representative was not able to keep appointment. He will call either to-morrow or Wednesday between 4 and 7," and "Sorry cannot call. Will Friday night be convenient?" Finally, these subterfuges proving unavailing, they consented to return the £5, forwarding a cheque postdated a week, stating that if it was paid through a bank on the day named it would be honoured, and asking for the return of the original receipt. The document was not, however, sent back, and their client's distrust was soon proved to be well-founded, for she received the following telegram: "Do not present cheque to-day. Writing. Provincial Agency," and the cheque was returned, marked "R. D."

This is one of those cases which should not be left to a private prosecutor, as victims are unlikely to have the means of obtaining redress at the hands of the criminal law—a civil action is, of course, useless against impecunious scamps of this character. Are the Nottingham police on the move?

We wonder if the young lady vocalist is also a *si jeune*.

A GRATEFUL HOPPER.

A FARMER OF THE GOOD OLD TYPE.

That consideration on the part of employers and gratitude on the part of the employed have not ceased to exist, let the following letter, received from a Canning Town correspondent, bear witness :—

> Having been a Reader of JOHN BULL since it was first out, I am writing to ask you if you would thank the farmer of small farm Horsmonden Kent through your paper for the kindness he has shown my wife while she was there hop-picking. She had the baby Taken Bad and it died last Saturday I can assure you he acted a thorough Gentleman towards us he went all round the country to try and Get a Doctor, and done the Best he could for us and furthe more after he had paid her up he gave her 10s. towards Burying the baby so you can see that he has done his best for us and also did the Baliff Mr. Giles I might also mention that her Mother had a boy taken bad and the farmer had eggs and Brandy and everything that he required sent him Sir I am only a poor Man so if you would give him our thanks through your paper it will shew that there is some good Bosses as well as Bad trusting sir you can oblige
>
> I am yours
>
> A THANKFULL FATHER AND MOTHER.

We raise our hat to the worthy farmer of "small farm Horsmonden, Kent." And we commend the case to the attention of Mr. Lloyd George.

Wanted, a "Mauve" Coupon. £50 Special Prize. See page 627.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

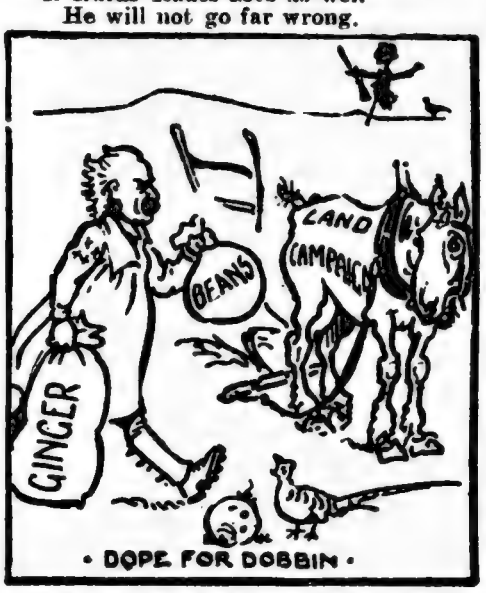
BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."

Death still exacts a heavy toll
Which man at times must pay;
But crowded though the victims' roll
'Twill not man's progress stay.

The Lord Chief Justice says farewell—
As we've foreshadowed long;
If Rufus Isaacs does as well
He will not go far wrong.

On three successive days last week
Met Asquith's Cabinet;
The reason is not far to seek—
'Twas Ulster, you can bet.

The Beehive Mill's a-hum once more
With busy, spinning bees;
No longer "waxy," they'll restore
The honey by degrees.



With beans and ginger, it is said,
Lloyd George to-day will strive
To make old Dobbin raise his head
And show that he's alive.

All happiness to bride and groom,
And may she ne'er forget
She went not to an inner room
To smoke that cigarette.

THE FATTED CALF.

BITTER WAIL OF AN OXFORD PARSON.

The 52nd Oxford Light Infantry on their way to Aldershot, after taking part in the manœuvres, marched through Oxford, this being their first visit since the formation of the regiment. The Council and townspeople decided to give them a hearty welcome, and a public subscription list was opened. The regiment arrived on Saturday afternoon and camped on the outskirts of the city. On Sunday morning a Church Parade was held. The local Territorials, Boy Scouts, Church Lads' Brigade, Reservists and Veterans marched in the procession, after which the 52nd and the Territorials lunched in the Town Hall. This seems to have upset the Rev. G. Foster Carter, of St. Aldate's, for he writes in his Parish Magazine :—

> Was it inevitable that the vast luncheon should have been given to them, and so immense labour entailed, on that day? Was it inevitable that the Service for them should have been at an hour when all the ordinary Morning Services in the town's places of worship were in progress, and that the public should have been admitted to that Service—so directly countenancing the neglect of ordinary worship for what (for most if not all of them) could have been at best a "sacred show"!

Didn't our reverend friend ever hear of the parable of the fatted calf? On this occasion, it probably was not the case of the return of one prodigal but of hundreds! Would our friend give these men a sermon, without a sup? An evil-minded Oxford reader suggests that the collection at St. Aldate's suffered on this particular Sunday.

WOMAN IN THE PULPIT.

[*At an assembly of the Congregational Union the main question debated was the right of women to be admitted to the ministry.*]

When lovely woman, whom we call a peach,
Makes up her mind that she desires to preach,
'Tis no use begging her to change her mind;
She'll mount the pulpit if she's so inclined.

New fashions she'll invent in stoles and bands,
Tender will be her laying on of hands;
When she's allowed to wear the parson's hood,
No one will dare be otherwise than good.

Some men will smile on these new agitators,
Thinking a girl would grace a bishop's gaiters;
Others would take a bold course and a firm 'un,
Just to stop her from holding forth in sermon.

Some say her tongue at present does not dawdle,
She's preached for years—remember Mrs. Caudle;
Strange that she should unfrock herself—at least
Doff her frock for the plain frock of a priest.

Yet when the pulpit she at length has mounted,
'Mong her dear brethren may we all be counted;
Protest is idle, wiser far is this course:
Let woman preach—while man sleeps through her discourse!

RICARDO.

Don't forget the Pen Coupon on page iii. of cover.

PIETY AND PARSIMONY.

BELFAST BOARDERS' "HAPPY HOME."

We wonder if members of the Ulster Presbyterian "General Assembly" are alive to the conditions which prevail at their Hostel for Girls in Botanic Avenue, Belfast. This anomalous institution is neither a charity nor a commercial venture, neither a religious retreat nor a philanthropic shelter. It is a blend of all these things—a nondescript foundation, largely self-supporting yet subsidised from the Assembly's funds; permeated with the atmosphere of religious observance, and governed by rigorous disciplinary rule—in short a "Home" of the kind we know so well, where "business" girls (victims, many of them, of the vile system which underpays female labour of set purpose and upon a foul assumption) may shelter from the perils of the streets, albeit their immunity be purchased at the cost of all else that conduces to the happiness and *joie de vivre* of healthy girlhood.

Let it not be thought that we are about to disclose gross scandals or startling abuses. Our indictment of the management of the "Home" is of quite another character. There is no suggestion of disrepute about the modest premises in Botanic Gardens. Inside and out they are utterly, dismally, inhumanly respectable. Everything in and about them is scrupulously "correct." The habits of the inmates, their risings and retirings, their incomings and outgoings, their fasts and their feasts—with marked stress on the former—are prescribed with rigid precision. The fare is of monastic frugality, "restraint and moderation in eating" being inculcated with a wealth of Christian precept, pointedly enforced with the utmost rigour of Presbyterian practice.

"Prunes and Prisms."

Even the feasts of Christendom are celebrated—solemnised might be an apter word—with righteous restraint. At Eastertide a boiled egg, chastely symbolic, ekes out the scantily-buttered bread of the normal breakfast menu. No ordinary Sabbath passes without its comestible distinction. Prunes and greengages have then been known to grace the festal board. The meals at Botanic Avenue have the semblance of sacraments both in their sparsity and in the unction with which they are administered. Parsimony and piety go hand in hand. What is generally known as a "devotional" atmosphere pervades the institution. Many well-fed persons appear to derive much benefit from the unctuous pronouncement of "grace" before, and, more noticeably, after meat; but when the pangs of healthy hunger are but indifferently satisfied such formalities are apt to occasion acute dyspepsia and worse evils. At Botanic Avenue, prayers, graces and benedictions of ripe Presbyterian flavour are—forgive the phrase—on tap. They may be had for the asking *ad libitum* and *ad nauseam*. They share this distinction with the water supply. All else is regulated with precision, but in a peculiar sense "free grace" may be said to be the distinctive tenet of the prevailing theologic creed. Prayers follow the buttered bread and weak tea of the morning meal. Prayers succeed the evening repast of bread and milk—pure milk and wholesome bread, half a glass of the one, and a single slice of the other. Plain living and loud praying is the cardinal note of the *régime*.

Pudding *versus* Praise.

We "put it" to the General Assembly that the state of affairs obtaining at their Botanic Avenue Hostel is not decent, is not honest, and is emphatically not Christian. If they mean well by their charges, if they are honestly concerned for their chastity and honour, if they are acutely alive to the dangers besetting homeless girls in a great city, then let them house their *protégés* in decent comfort and in conditions making for the reasonable enjoyment of human existence. If it be urged that the girls' payments—all they can afford—will not permit of increased amenities, then—in the name of common consistency, to say nothing of Christian charity—let them loosen their purse-strings and increase their subsidy. In Pope's homely phrase, let there be more "solid pudding" and less "empty praise."

A CIVIC SCANDAL.

GRAVE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST MOTHERWELL MAGISTRATES.

A grave licensing scandal has arisen in the burgh of Motherwell, Lanarkshire, allegations of a most serious character having been preferred against certain of the Bailies who compose the local Licensing Court. At a session of this tribunal, held in April last, the teetotal section of the Bench seem to have had things all their own way. Headed by two fanatics of somewhat unenviable local repute, they carried everything before them, riding roughshod over public requirements and legitimate interests. On the flimsiest of pretexts, thirteen licences were summarily withdrawn. A number of reasonable applications for licensing facilities were curtly refused. Publicans, brewers and their representatives were grossly and vulgarly insulted. One Bailie, to whose part in the disgraceful business we shall make further reference, amiably apostrophised a respectable licensee as "a bloodsucker and a breeder of harlots," and this without a shadow of justification or excuse. The proceedings excited disgust and resentment throughout the burgh, and, in view of the character of certain of the Bailies, aroused grave suspicion, which the startling sequel did nothing to allay.

A Shameless *Volte-Face*.

Scottish licensing procedure differs from that with which we are familiar on this side of the border. The ordinary sessions of the Licensing Bench are followed by the holding of a "Confirmation" Court, which appears to consist of Bailies and Councillors blended in equal proportions. By a curious anomaly, the Bailies who compose the original Court may adjudicate in the appellate tribunal, and thus assist in the revision of their own decrees. Thus it was that the fanatical curs who in April had jockeyed applicants and licence-holders with every circumstance of vulgar truculence and abuse, returned to their vomit at the "Confirmation" Court, in chastened mood. They executed a cynical and shameless *volte-face*. With humble and hypocritical mien they ate their fiery words. Instead of "confirming" their unjust decisions, they ruthlessly revised each one. The thirteen licences revoked at the Licensing Court were re-issued, other inequitable decisions being similarly reversed. What had happened in the interim to account for this startling change of front?

A well-known Motherwell tradesman proffers an explanation. In earnest of his *bona fides* he has formulated his charges with precision, lodging them with the police authorities with the request that they may be forwarded to the Lord Advocate with a view to appropriate action. He unhesitatingly asserts that the licences withdrawn at the Licensing Court were merely held back to be sold to their former holders for shameless bribes. He alleges that he was himself invited to an interview with a prominent "teetotal" Bailie, and there and then verbally informed that £800 was the cash price of two votes which might turn the scale in his favour at the Confirmation Court, and thus award him the concession which, "on the merits," he had failed to obtain. The whole sorry story, with further confirmatory details, will soon form the subject of searching legal investigation.

A Disreputable Fanatic.

But we have not quite finished. We would address a plain word to Bailie Ferguson. He is deeply concerned in this nauseous matter. It was he who uttered the shameful insult quoted above, and his vote is freely mentioned as that to which a cash price was assigned. Moreover, his record is unclean. We severely criticised his public action, in a licensing matter of 1910. Our strictures were followed by legal proceedings, in which Ferguson was utterly discredited. But for our clemency, he would long ago have been driven into obscurity. Let him immediately take means to clear himself, if he can, of the shameful odium which once more attaches to his name. No honest man would hesitate for a moment. Should he lie down under the present charges, only one inference can be drawn. He must then retire at once and for ever from the public eye of Motherwell, where his continued presence can only be fraught with peril and disgrace to the citizens at large.

£1,750 for Football Forecast this week. £650 MUST be Won.

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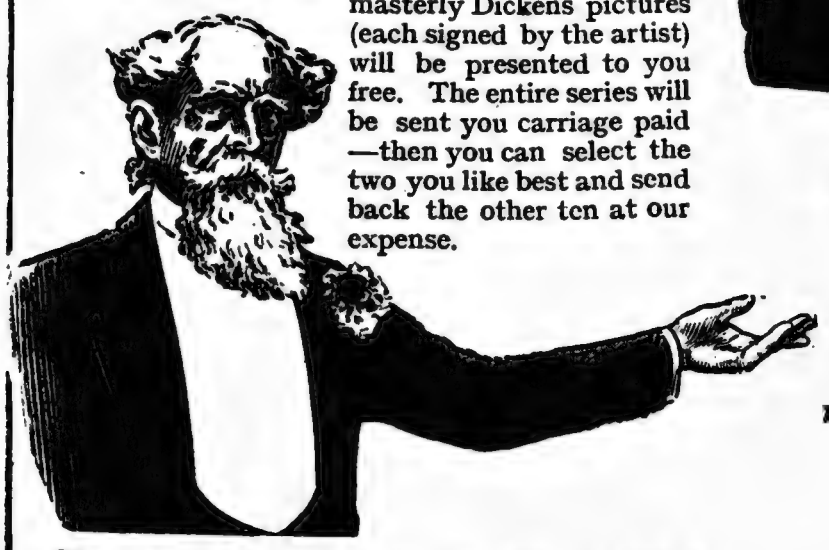

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THE TOBACCO-OCTOPUS.

MAMMOTH MERCHANTS' MEAN MACHINATIONS.

Most people are aware that the tobacco business of Great Britain is in the grip of a mammoth trust, whose widespread operations leave scanty scope for the activities of rival distributors. Competitors, indeed, it has few. Seven-eighths of the British tradé is in its hands. Wholesale tobacconists, who at one time pursued their business in the face of competition but with independence and a fair prospect of profit, have become mere agents of the Imperial Tobacco Company, bound by legal agreement to puff its wares, to push its interests, and to trade at its bidding. So harsh is the incidence of the prevailing conditions that there is universal bitterness within the trade, although, for obvious reasons, there is little open revolt. Ninety per cent. of wholesale tobacco dealers are in a position of utter helplessness in the face of the mighty resources of the Trust. Their very livelihoods are at stake. They must submit or succumb.

A Bold Attack.

The matter has been diffidently ventilated in the organs of the trader. The methods of the Combine are as autocratic as they are capricious, and occasionally an unsavoury story has reached the columns of these journals. In *Tobacco* of February last, Mr. S. Charles, a wholesale dealer at Croydon, entered a vigorous protest against the tactics of the Imperial Tobacco Company. Without mincing his words, he roundly denounced the Combine and all its works, restrained only by a strict adherence to the facts of his own experience. Mr. Charles's subsequent fate eloquently illustrates the machinations which he had the temerity to stigmatise as dishonest and unfair.

"Britons Never Shall be Slaves."

Like other victims of this giant monopoly, he was bound by an "agreement," if any such term may be applied to a document which was doubtless placed before him in the way of an ultimatum. We have examined this precious contract. It is pretty much the kind of bargain which fancy might impute to a lamb and a boa constrictor. The wholesale factor becomes at once a middleman, an agent of the Trust. He must agree to display all the advertising paraphernalia which they choose to dump upon his premises, converting the exterior of his establishment into free hoarding space, should the Combine so dictate. He must sell the wares of the Trust at a figure fixed by them, even though this price should coincide with the cost of the articles payable by himself, in which case his own profit will obviously be eliminated. He must eschew all business dealings with any firm or person which has chanced to forfeit the favour of the Combine. In rather more than the Prayer Book sense, the Trust will henceforth "prevent him in all his ways." His soul, we presume, will remain his own, but his business is the Combine's, and the fullness thereof. A bonus rewards his self-abnegation. Allowing for certain classes of goods which are excepted from its operation, it amounts to about 1¼ per cent. upon the whole value of the goods sold. Snugly pocketing the bulk of the odd 98¾ per cent., the Combine can afford to smile. The unhappy middleman is in the uncomfortable position assigned by tradition to a certain young lady of Riga.

Unfair High-handedness.

Yet Mr. Charles declares that he loyally kept his bond. It was of no avail. He had incurred the high displeasure of the Trust. In due course he was curtly informed that he had broken his agreement by selling goods below their scheduled price. No details were vouchsafed. The charge was based upon "confidential" information supplied to the Company. Mr. Charles protests to us his entire innocence of the alleged offence. Repeated requests for particulars have evoked no response. Yet the unhappy trader has been compelled to forfeit commission amounting to eighty pounds, and has been driven from the trade. The Combine is legally protected by its artfully concocted agreement. One more defenceless victim has gone to glut its insatiable maw.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CCLXX.

[In this column every week we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

SHUNTED OFF THE LINE.

Here is the hard case of a railway porter, a married man with three children—two girls, aged seven and five years, and a boy of two. For six years he worked at the L. and N.W. Goods Department, Bolton, but caught a severe cold, which resulted in bronchitis and inflammation of the kidneys, owing to which he has twice been an inmate of the infirmary. He is now at home under medical treatment and has hopes of pulling round, if only he can get enough money to keep the home together meantime, and provide him with a change of air. During the whole of his illness his wife and children have suffered, although to some extent they have been provided with the bare necessities of life by his fellow-workers. We have a really excellent reference from the railway foreman, who is of opinion that the little family can be saved by timely help. We have also made full inquiry into the case and are satisfied that the wife has done everything she can, going out charing and earning whatever was possible. The family is on the brink of a precipice. Will our readers prevent them from being pushed over? If so, "all change here!"

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CCXLIII.—B. A. (Johannesburg), 5s.

CCLXI.—"A Sympathiser," 10s.

CCLXVI.—H. J. 1s.; "Ex Rifleman," 5s; H. J. T., 3s.

CCLXVII.—B. C. W., 1s.; "Walter," 5s.; "Yenton," 2s. 6d.; M. C. H., 1s.; D. A., 25s.

CCLXVIII.—J. R. C., £1; "Wakefield," 1s.; A. M., 1s.; C. H. H., 1s.; "Jim," 4s.; E. M. H., 1s.; "Orphaneus," 2s. 6d.; F. H., 10s.; "Jennie E.," 1s.; J. W., 6d.; W. H., 5s.; T. C. L., 2s. 6d.; T. H. C., 2s. 6d.; D. A., 25s.

CCLXIX.—"Ivy Mary," 2s. 6d.; A. G., 8s.; "Little Johnnie," 8s.; J. H. B. (Montreal), 3s.; "Lena Jane," 1s.; P. C., 6d.; "Mistake," 1s.; H. D. L., £5; "Marine," 1s.; "An Admirer," 6d.

Mr. L. Isaacs, the winner of the £500 prize in our 52nd "Bullets" Competition, has generously forwarded us £3, which we have allocated to No. CCLXIX.

Mr. W. H. Lewis, one of the winners in our Second Football Competition, has kindly sent us £2, which we have divided between Nos. CCLXVII. and CCLXIX.

We have this week allotted £10 from the John Bull Derby Sweepstake Charity Fund as follows:—CCXXXVIII., £2; CCLXIX., £5; and £3 to the poor man whose case we referred to last week, under the heading of "Salvation Sweating."

We have received the sum of 1s. 6d. from A. S., and a parcel of clothing from "Maud G." for the young couple referred to in the paragraph headed "Not Enough for One had to be Enough for Three."

COLLECTING BOXES.

By the kindness of many of our readers we are enabled to add to our "Human Document" Fund by means of collecting boxes which they are good enough to place on their premises. We shall be glad to hear from others willing to assist in this work.

London.—Mr. H. T. Cooper, "The Castle," Grosvenor Rise East, Walthamstow, 1s. 1d.; Mr. W. Blenzberg, "Prince of Wales," Lea Bridge Road, 13s.; Mr. A. Bellotti, "The Sadlers," Swallow Street, 1s. 6d.; Mr. A. C. Trout, 3, Highgate Hill, 4s. 10d.

Liverpool.—Mr. F. W. Delderfield, "Press Guards' Hotel," 13, Soho Street, 2s. 6d.; Messrs. J. Pride and Sons, 8, Elliott Street, 1s. 3d.

Nottingham.—Mr. C. Prince, "Greyhound," London Road, 1s. 3d.

Brighton.—Mr. W. A. Spear, King's Theatre, Western Road, 4s. 8d.; Messrs. Mantell and James, 1 and 2, Arundel Road, 2s. 2½d.; Mr. J. H. Olliver, "Bridge Inn," New England, 1s. 4½d.; Mr. W. D. Barker, 92, Preston Drove, 2s. 7d.; Mr. A. W. Chatfield, "Black Lion," 195, Preston Road, 1s. 3d.; Miss Knott, 88, Elm Grove, 1s. 7½d.

Edinburgh.—Mr. F. Stevens, 69, Clerk Street, 1s. 1d.; Mr. R. S. Horne, 11, St. Vincent Street, 1s. 2d.

Croydon.—Mr. Heath, 19, Church Street, 4s. 6d.

Leicester.—Mr. J. Facer, 92, Dunton Street, 1s.; Mr. W. Belton, 276, Humberston Gate, 1s. 3d.; Mr. P. Bedford, 153, Upper Kent Street, 1s. 11d.; Mr. T. Fox, "Fish and Quart Hotel," Churchgate, 1s. 7½d.; Miss M. Niblett, Albion Street 3s. 10d.; Mr. T. Cramp, 49, Haynes Road, 3s. 9d.; Mr. G. Dakin, "Shaftesbury Hotel," Conduit Street, 1s. 6d.

Total £3 0s. 8¾d., of which we have allocated £1 to CCLXV., 10s. 8¾d. to CCLXVI., and 30s. to CCLXIX.

Winner of our £1,000 "Bullets" Birthday Prize. See page 635.

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A JOLLY GOOD HEARTY LAUGH now and then does you a World of good, and makes life worth living. With the Graves Gramophone handy you can turn on the **Merriment Tap** whenever you feel inclined, and without leaving your own fireside you can enjoy the cream of all the best that is going—the Funniest Comic Songs sung by London's leading Variety Artists, Magnificent Military Music, the latest Opera Successes, the Noblest Patriotic and Sacred Music, and every form of Musical Talent that is worth listening to is yours to enjoy in unrivalled abundance.

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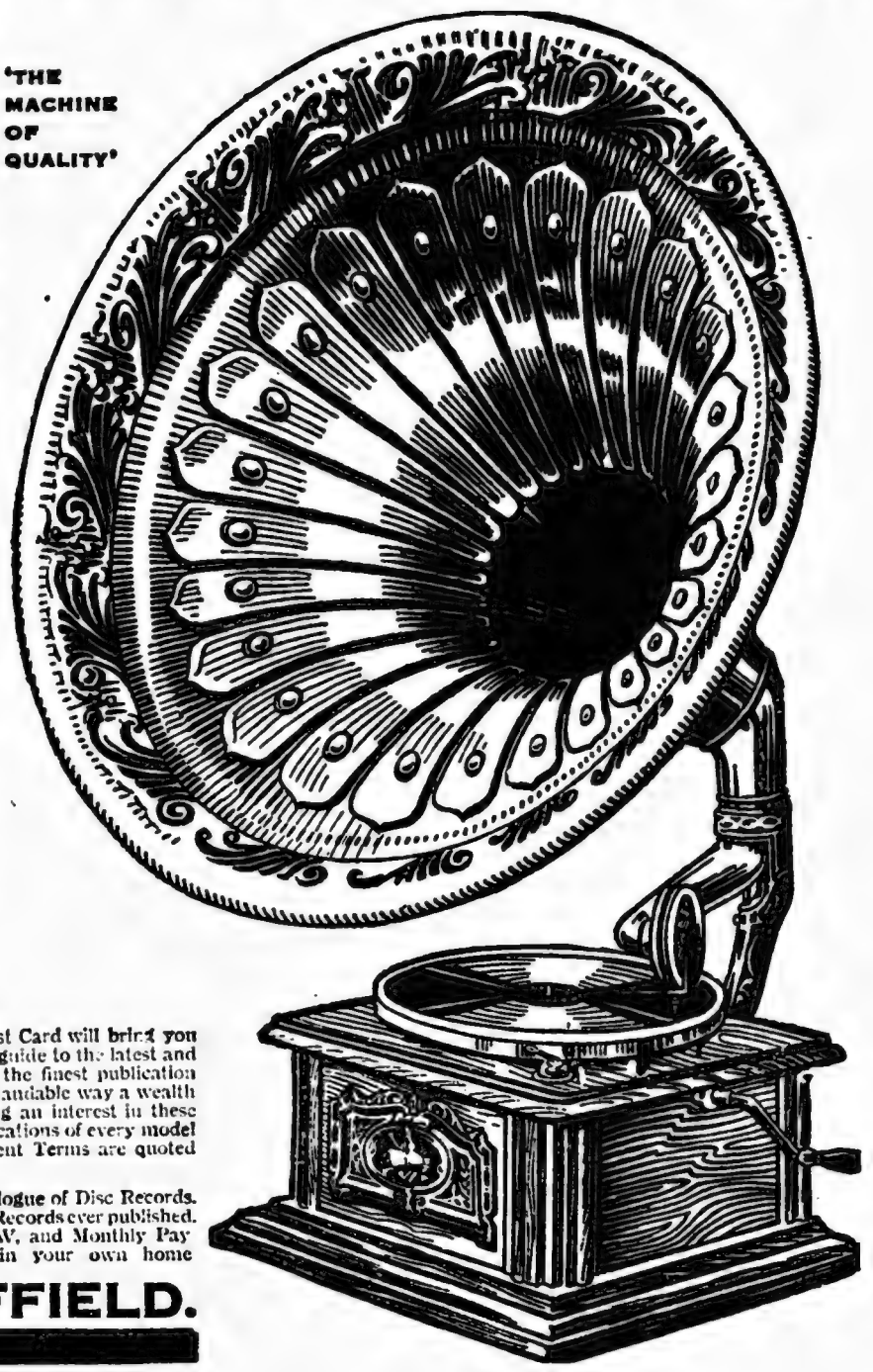

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BIRMINGHAM BOBBIES.

EXTRAORDINARY ALLEGATIONS AGAINST POLICE.

Evidence in an extraordinary case heard by Mr. J. Phillips and Alderman Quinney in the Victoria Courts may well startle the citizens of Birmingham into the suspicion that their police are insufficiently examined as to character and suitability. A man named Davis, walking along the street at a quarter-past eleven at night, stopped at a doorway to light a cigar, as so many people do. One of the two plain-clothes officers on the beat accosted him, cross-examined him, and eventually accused him of acting suspiciously, and ordered him away in such a provocative manner—the defendant says the officer actually hit him on the jaw—as to give rise in the man's mind to the belief that the officer was intoxicated. He therefore demanded the constable's number, but instead of complying with the demand the officer and his mate arrested him and took him to the police station. And there occurred an incident which cannot leave very much doubt in the mind of anybody as to who was in the wrong. The charge tendered was not that the accused had been acting suspiciously, but that he was drunk and disorderly; and so obvious was it to the station-sergeant that it was without justification that he refused to receive it. The prisoner was naturally angry, and as naturally vehement. He refused to leave the police station until he had seen the superintendent, but was forcibly ejected. As he remained in the street protesting, and causing, it may be, more or less disturbance in his excitement, he was again arrested by another officer not cognisant of the circumstances, but again the station sergeant refused to take the charge, and what he appeared at the Victoria Courts to answer was in fact a summons for—"being disorderly by shouting"! To complete the fiasco, the Magistrates dismissed the case because, even for this trumped-up charge on so mild a process of criminal law, "there was not sufficient evidence" to support it.

On no single aspect of the case is it possible to excuse or condone the conduct of the officers responsible. Probably we shall again see Birmingham police sued for moral and material damage. It would be interesting to know whether in the meantime these aggressive and imaginative guardians of the peace have been subjected to the stern discipline of dismissal.

What is your Number?

Every copy of John Bull bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and published in the following issue.

To each of the holders of copies of John Bull *of specified date*, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of TWO GUINEAS in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a full report of all the work done.

The following correct claims have been received:—

Mr. R. C. WALL, 58, Park Road, Aston, Birmirgham. September 27th. No. 383,057.

Mr. F. HALL, 113, Harbut Road Battersea, S.W. October 4th. No. 721,680.

Mr. W. FALCONER, 18, Chestnut Grove, New Earswick, York. October 4th. No. 694,132.

Mr. A. PENNOCK, Portnacross College Hill, Harrow Weald, Middlesex. September 27th. No. 277,721.

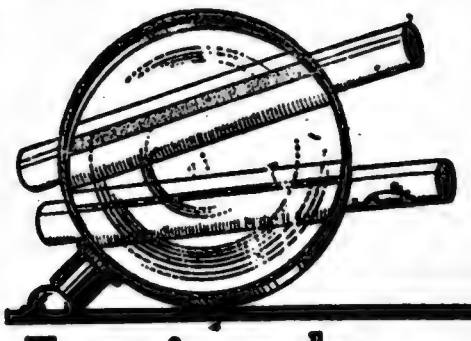
Miss E. M. PEARSON, 28, Dinoric Road, Birkdale, Southport. October 4th. No. 219,936.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of October 18:—

000852	168422	342664	592737	817628
027872	201379	396667	616368	828705
034154	213724	424012	640406	840650
041706	218776	431343	678855	863381
052310	232286	449033	705419	901362
073074	240764	469126	716014	929437
114184	257331	505628	725184	947023
120926	301713	519037	742087	978211
138102	328821	546235	776474	A001154
146603	338958	567857	810759	A008356

The A prefixed to the drawn numbers indicates it is plus a million.

The Fifty Numbers in Respect of this Week will be Announced in Our Next Issue (Published October 29th.)



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The top one with the wide overlap is an ordinary "10 for 3d." cigarette — the lower one with the narrow overlap is a "Black Cat."

The wider the overlap the more paper you consume—and the more the flavour of your smoke is spoiled.

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It clothes your bones in a garment of healthy tissue-substance. It gives you plump limbs, shoulders, chest and body, and at the same time it immensely improves your health. Sanaglobin does not make you unhealthily fat—it makes you healthily proportionate. It acts in a natural way. It is a Food for Thin People which makes them not obese people, but well developed people.

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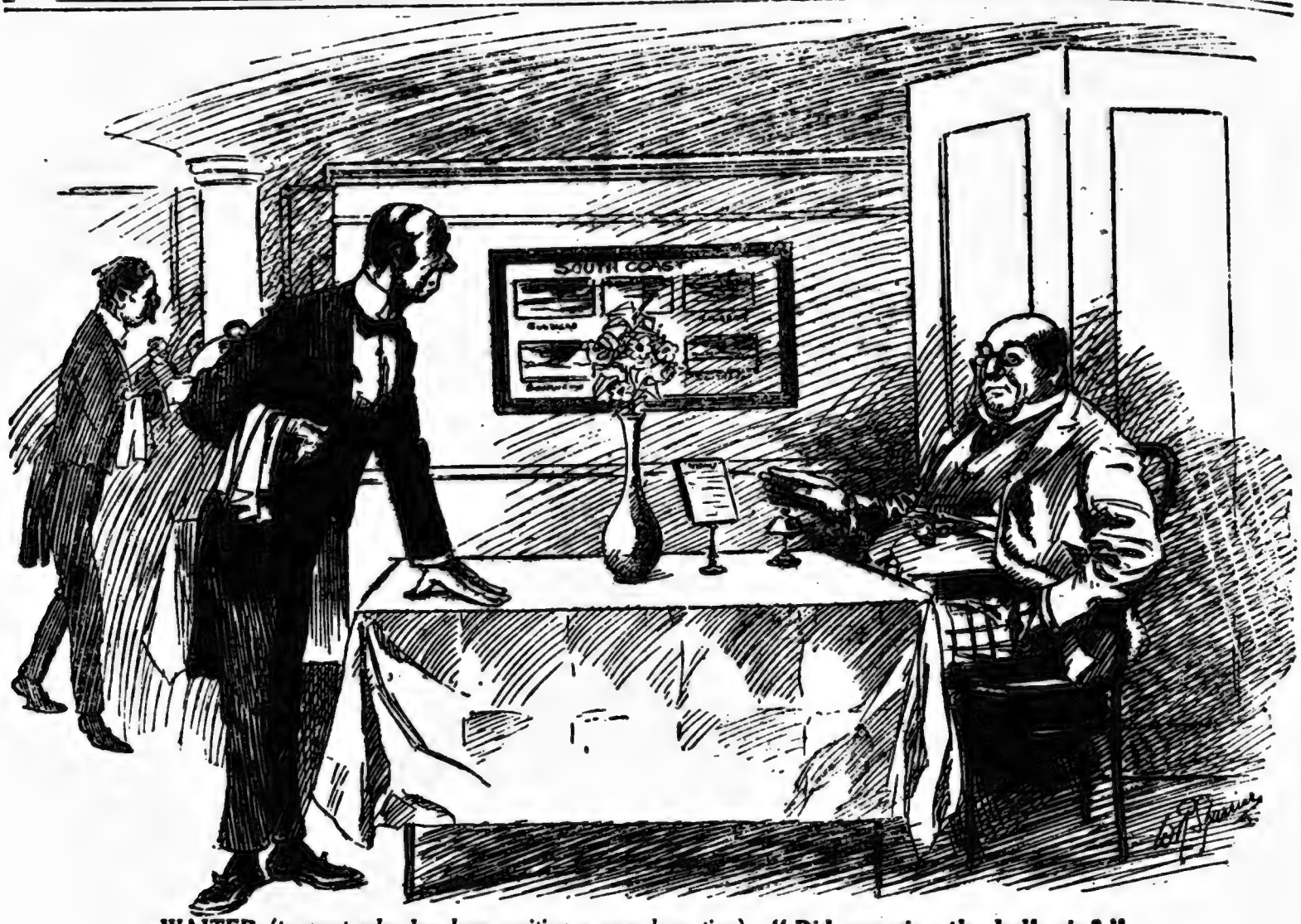

WAITER (*to guest who has been waiting a very long time*): "Did you ring the bell, sir?"
GUEST: "No, I was tolling it. I thought you were dead!"

HEARD IN THE TRAIN.

PEASANTS *v.* PHEASANTS.

OBVIOUS RADICAL: You're looking very pleased with yourself this morning, friend.

HODGE: Eh?

O. RADICAL: I say, you're looking uncommonly cheerful to-day.

HODGE: Oh, aye. Oi beant one o' they long-faced 'uns, bor. 'Sides, Oi've got summat tew maak Oi yappy, thaat Oi 'aave.

O. RADICAL: Ah, I think I can guess what it is.

HODGE: Dew you, now? Wull, Oi'll be danged if thaat beant a maasterpiece!

O. RADICAL (*winking expressively*): It's in all the papers, you know.

HODGE: Naw! Wull, whoo'd ha' thowt thaat, now? Yow dew surprise me, bor, thaat yow dew.

O. RADICAL: I don't quite see why. The whole country is talking of little else. Even Home Rule for Ireland has lost interest for the moment.

HODGE: Wull, Oi'm danged, *thaat* Oi be!

O. RADICAL: Ah; but you see, there's only one Lloyd George, and when *he* speaks everybody *has* to listen, whether they like him or not.

HODGE: Eh?

O. RADICAL: I say, nobody's speeches excite such intense interest as Lloyd George's.

HODGE: Llied Gaarge? D'yow mean 'im as maaks Oi paay foorpence a week outer my waages?

O. RADICAL (*sharply*): And gives you ninepence back. Yes; that's the man I mean. I'm not surprised at your looking happy, knowing that he has taken up the cause of the downtrodden agricultural labourer. Thank heaven, there are smiling faces and cheerful hearts in all the cottage homes of England to-day, because of the good time coming.

HODGE: Eh? Oi rackon yow've got a'hold o' the wrong end o' the pig, bor. D'yow think Oi'm smoilin' loike because o' Llied Gaarge an' his truck? It beant thaat, bor.

O. RADICAL: But surely you're glad to know he has taken up the farm labourers' unhappy case? He's going to do away with game preserving, so that the labourer can get back to the land which is rightly his.

HODGE: Eh? D'yow meanter tell Oi he's agoin' tu dew awaay wi' gaame?

O. RADICAL: Certainly. He pointed out in his great speech at Bedford that, whereas gamekeepers were increasing by hundreds throughout the country, farm labourers were decreasing by thousands.

HODGE: Wull, Oi'm danged, thaat Oi be! Goin' tew du awaay wi' gaame, be 'un?

O. RADICAL: Precisely. He pointed out what destructive creatures pheasants are to the crops, apart from their ousting the labourer from the soil. He told of crops of mangel wurzels being utterly ruined by flocks of voracious pheasants, to the loss of struggling farmers and the consequent injury of their labourers.

HODGE: Haw-haw! Wull, if thaat beant a maasterpiece! Oi've niver knawed a pheasant dew naw hurt tew a crap o' mangel wuzzles in arl my daays. Whoi, bor, they dew good instead o' haarm, gobblin' up the beetle maggots an' other pests wots baad fur turmuts.

O. RADICAL (*irritably*): Is that so? Well, you should know, I suppose, working on the land. But that's a small item. The great point is that he's determined to put a stop to this continual increase of gamekeepers to the detriment of the legitimate farm labourer.

HODGE: Oi thowt Llied Gaarge couldn't be oop tew noo good, dang 'un! 'E ain't saatisfied wi' taakin' foorpence a week outer my pocket. Now 'e's agooin' tu dew Oi outer twenty-five shilluns a week.

O. RADICAL: How do you make that out? You're a farm-hand, aren't you?

HODGE: Oi be, an' Oi beant. Oi was oop tu s'marnin', but my guv'ner's 'pinted Oi under gaamekeeper on 'is state, an' Oi'm agooin' tu Chemsf'd tu git measured fur a soot o' velveteens accordin' tu 'is arders, an' tu buy a noo 'ard 'at tu be married in next week. I spose thaat's whoi Oi were a-lookin' 'appy an' comferble, loike. Dang Llied Gaarge, an' yow tu! Whoi, Oi did'n raackon we wor so nigh Chemsf'd!

£1,750 waiting for Football Skill. See page 627.

Slip-on. *Raglan.*

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are made in a variety of Browns, Fawns and Greens in either the Raglan or Slip-on Style. Kelvit materials are absolutely weather-proof, and as an additional precaution each Kelvit is lined with a proofed check lining to harmonize with the colour of the coat. In ordering please state which style you prefer.

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far greater results than this, and I defy any over-stout person to use my treatment according to my simple directions for 30 days without reducing their weight from 10 to 40 lb No strenuous exercises, no starvation diet, no poisonous pills. The method is entirely new and absolutely safe and harmless. You gain strength but lose fat every day you use it.

My method is simple, it requires practically no time, does not interfere with one's regular occupation, is perfectly harmless and suited to men and women of all ages. You may reduce as much or as little weight, from any part of the body, as you desire by this method.

Send me 1d. stamp and I will send you absolute proof of the Fat-reducing qualities of my method, together with a book entitled "Weight Reduction Without Drugs," which explains my own personal experience. Simply address your letter: Winifred Grace Hartland, Suite 535, 62, Oxford Street, London, W.

You cannot do a kinder or a nobler act than to cut this out and hand it to some over-stout person, if you are not in need of this treatment yourself

OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To the Right Hon. Sir Rufus Isaacs, Lord Chief Justice of England.

Dear Rufus,—Bravo! Well done! By accepting the post to which conspicuous capacity, no less than unbroken tradition, entitle you, you have afforded the best possible reproof to those who, for petty Party purposes, have endeavoured to besmirch your personal reputation. The rest of their discomfiture will come when, at no distant date, you are acclaimed the greatest L.C.J. who ever presided over the King's Bench Division of what, under your guidance, will soon become in fact as well as name, the High Court of *Justice*.

By the way, your appointment emphasises the splendid advance which modern years have brought about in the matter of religious tolerance. You, a member of the Jewish race, follow a strong Protestant Churchman, who, in turn, was preceded by a Roman Catholic. Which is well.

John Bull.

To the Right Hon. Sir John Simon, Attorney-General.

Dear Sir John,—And I greet you, too. We have not been very close personal friends, but you have never had any greater admirer than myself. I have admired you as a profound lawyer; I have admired you as a mighty advocate; and I have admired you as a shrewd Party politician. So far as forensic fights are concerned, we have had two—haven't we?—and honours are easy. It used to be my ambition to win the odd trick. But a little incident in the Lobby of the House of Commons altered all that. Do you remember it? It revealed you to me in the light of an even greater man than I had thought you. Good luck! John Bull.

To Stanley Buckmaster, Esq., K.C., Solicitor-General.

Dear Buckmaster,—And a word of greeting to you, as well. It is a good many years now—isn't it?—since we sat side by side in the old Battersea Parliament"—with young John Burns as our neighbour. Since then you have "come on" with a vengeance—despite the fact that you chose the Chancery side of the Bar—where, by the way, you were one of the very few "human" beings. Like Rufus, you are no "politician"—the Party game is beneath you; but you are a good lawyer, a good speaker, and, withal, a good fellow. So get to work in your new office, and just dig Simon in the ribs now and then, whilst you tell him the latest story, and make him realise some of the joy of life. Then we shall all be happy.

John Bull.

To the Right Hon. J. A. Pease, M.P., Education Minister, Whitehall, London.

Dear "Jack,"—I wonder whether you have noticed the question which Mr. C. F. White, of the Derbyshire County Council, put to the Chairman of the Education Committee at the last meeting of the Council. "What control," he asked, "has the Education Committee over its headmasters?" And then he went on to aver that he knew of a big Council School the master of which was also a large farmer, a milk seller, a greengrocer, a water-rate collector, a land speculator, and is now seeking to become the local sewage contractor; and he has undertaken to reveal the name of this protean pedagogue to the Chairman *sub rosa*. As this does not strike me as being at all an adequate revelation, I am writing to ask you to investigate the matter. I have some difficulty in perceiving how the gentleman spares time for his scholastic duties, supposing that he performs any of them other than that of calling round for his salary when it falls due; and if now he is going to contract for the sewage—and probably in due course for the lamplighting and the dust heaps—I can see him being on the hands of the Education Authority with brain trouble and a superannuation allowance almost before they can say "Jack Robinson." Can't you, Jack?

John Bull.

To Sir Edward Henry, Chief Commissioner, Metropolitan Police.

Dear Sir Edward,—Upon a matter strictly within your official purview, I speak in all humility and subject to the fullest correction. But is it really necessary to make quite such a fuss about the re-arrest of militant suffragettes? Was it wise, for instance, for your men to invade the Coliseum platform in the full course of an orderly meeting, like a band of soldiery storming a forlorn hope, in order to effect the arrest of a single woman, thereby provoking riot, conflict, and all unseemliness? Untaught by their first experience—or, more probably, acting under official orders—your officers repeated the experiment at Bow, getting fearfully mauled, only to find in the end that their quarry had escaped. I have failed to discern a shadow of reason for these extraordinary tactics, which undoubtedly afford the militants an excellent free advertisement. To me the whole business appears to be an object lesson in "how not to do it." Am I wrong? John Bull.

To the Rev. J. A. Pride, D.D., The Rectory, Bridlington, Yorks.

Divine Doctor,—From what you say in your parish magazine, I gather you are much perturbed at the size of your collections, the thousands you gather every year having now become a heavy parochial burden, being mostly coppers. In the height of the season—that is, in the month of August—you garner 870 ha'pennies and 4,465 pennies. Nobody gives two ha'pennies or two pennies to one collection, so probably you ministered to 5,335 people. But why repine, rev. friend? From the earliest days of the Faith it has always been a blessed thing to preach to the poor. And, between you and me and the churchwardens, you rather remind me of some of the Disciples of old time; the poor always ye have with you.

It may be, of course, there are other explanations. In the ordinary way of life, one assumes that when a ha'penny is given for a thing, it is not worth a penny; and when a penny is given for it, it is not worth two pence—in other words, the price is the value of the goods. I do not say it is so in the case of your sermons; but my experience is—that preachers are to be divided in two classes; those who expect a good collection for telling you what you know, and those who expect a good one for telling you what they don't know.

If you, dear Rector, can affix the cash value in either case, I shall be glad most carefully to consider it. One does not give for the sermon, however, but for the service, and I certainly do think that meanness at the collection plate in a place of Divine Service is the meanest of all meannesses of which those who believe in the religion they profess can be guilty. John Bull.

To Superintendent Rose, Police Office, Guisborough.

Dear Superintendent,—I should certainly be the last man to extenuate the cruelty of anybody towards a dumb beast, but I love justice even more than I hate cruelty, and if you do not know how to conduct a police case I must tell you. It should not, and I hope it will not again be conducted as you conducted the one against the carter Grayson, of Lingdale, with whom personally, understand, I have no sympathy. But for the purpose of prejudicing him to the Bench it was monstrously unfair, on your part, to ask him in cross-examination whether or not he had been previously convicted of cruelty to animals. The time for proving a previous conviction—except in certain well-defined circumstances—is after a prisoner has been found guilty. If you do this kind of thing in one instance, you will probably do it in another, and I protest it is thoroughly un-English and thoroughly unfair. The magistrates should have stopped you at once; remember that the police in prosecuting are bound by the same laws, the same rules of evidence, and the same canons of propriety as the defendant who is prosecuted. Play the game.

John Bull.

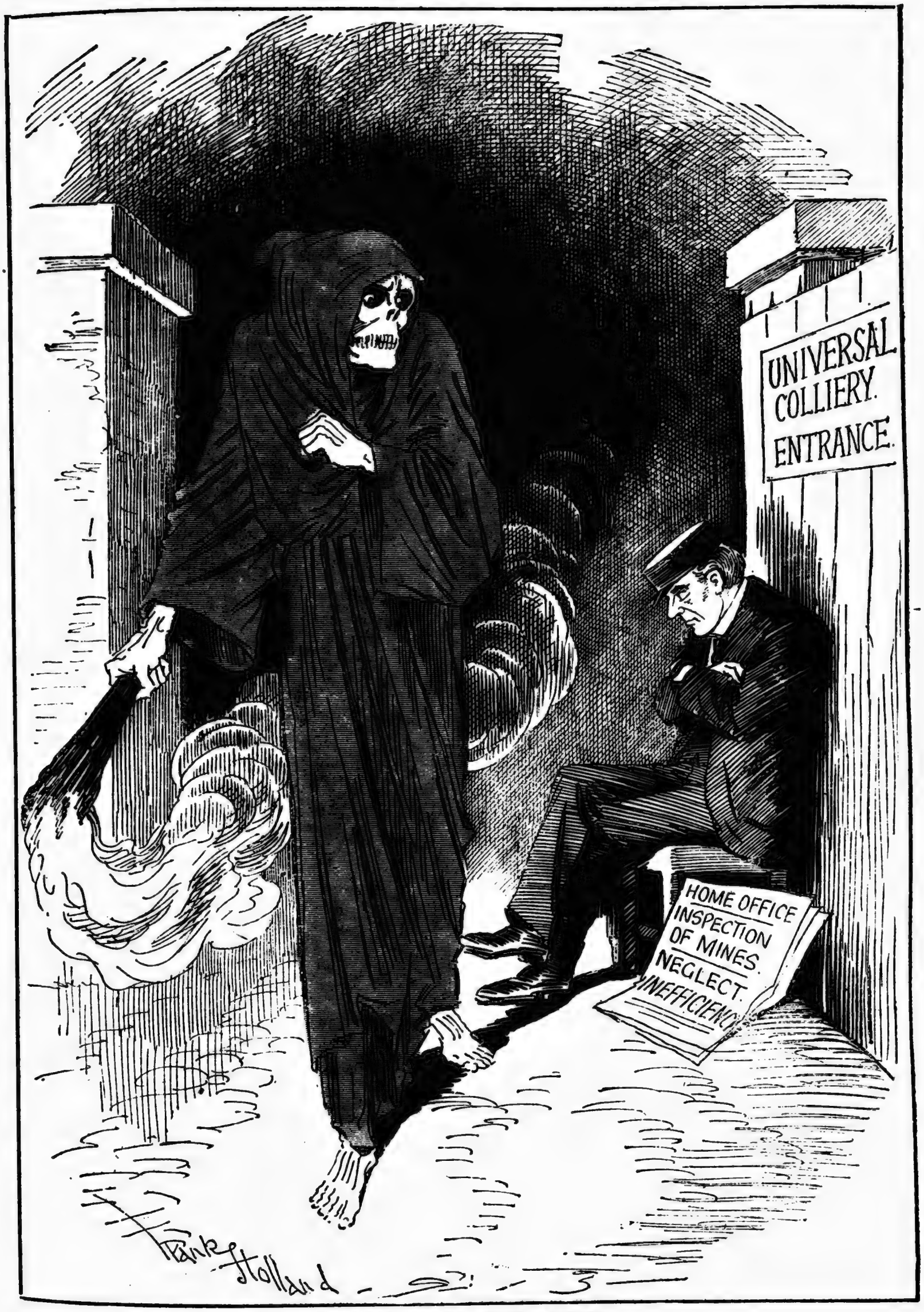
Alderman Hartley, Railway Shunter, York.

As citizens of York have offered you highest honour in their power—that of Lord Mayor—they are probably prepared to help you, as poor man, to make wheels go round; remembering one good turn deserves another.

Bull.

Great New Serial—"Slaves of the Limelight"—begins in "Mary Bull" this week.

WHILE THE WATCHMAN SLEEPS—



DEATH FIRES THE MINE.

HOORAY FOR THE BOGUS BOARD!

[One of the high officials of the Board of Trade has a confidential chat with a friend.]

We're desirous of appointing a Committee
To consider new appliances for trains,
But we must have men who're something in the City
Or who know a thing or two about the drains.

Should one understand the details of a railway,
I'm afraid we'd have to ask him to resign,
For he might upset the mighty railway magnates
By suggesting needed outlays on their line

Such as stopping gas illuminants in coaches
Or erecting signal-boxes on a curve:
What, you think that he's the man we ought to have, Sir?
Well, I compliment you highly on your nerve.

But ignoring your untimely interruption,
I may say we need inspectors for our ships;
But they must be really good at rearing turnips,
Or evolving seedless-orange trees from pips.

Otherwise I fear they'd be of little use, Sir,
For we must have men whom shipowners can kid,
As we can't tell shipping heads to make reforms, Sir;
And, besides, they'd never make them if we did.

Yet you think we ought to give the jobs to seamen
Who would understand the work from A to Z?
Why my dear Sir, 'twould create a bad precedent,
It's too bad to put such ideas in my head.

And, again, such men might test a rotten tackle,
And thus cause a boat to fall into the sea;
Why, the thought is too ridiculous, just think, Sir.
What an awful waste of time it all would be.

Now, concerning this, a thought struck me one morning,
Which I must say is a brilliant idea;
And when *I* propose the Board of Trade adopt it,
It'll go through in a moment, never fear.

It is this, and you'll admit the scheme is splendid,
But you won't betray my confidence, I hope;
Well, instead of having boats hung up on davits,
Let them drag behind the liner on a rope.

Just suppose the vessel caught on fire or foundered,
Well, the boats could be pulled nearer by a tar,
The passengers could all slide down the rudder
And get aboard, and then—well, there you are!

Now, isn't that what one might call a brain wave?
The simplicity must needs appeal to you;
And I'll tell you, but you'll guard the secret closely,
I have tried it on a steamboat down at Kew.

Now, when all the final details have been seen to,
And the Press report the progress that we've made,
Then the public will rejoice to know they have, Sir,
Such colossal brains behind the Board of Trade.

C. F.-S.

AN INTERESTING SOCIETY CHARITY BALL.

In aid of that well-known organisation, the Queen Alexandra League, which works so worthily in support of the Lord Mayor Treloar's Cripples Hospital and College, Alton, Hants, a private subscription ball is to be held at Prince's on November 13th next. The Ball is to be held under the patronage of H.R.H. Princess Henry of Battenberg and a number of distinguished Society ladies. A very influential committee has been formed, who ask for the fullest support to this charitable effort. Tickets are limited in number, and may be obtained, price 15s. each, from the Honorary Secretary, Miss Philipp, 15, Avenue Mansions, Finchley Road, N.W. Early application is advisable. When writing kindly state whether ladies' or gentlemen's tickets are required. Mr. Stroud Haxton's well-known band will supply the music of the evening.

Another Letter *from* JOHN BULL *to* His Sons

My Dear Boys,

I'm glad to know that a goodly number of you took my last letter to heart, and have acted upon my advice. I never utter warnings without good reason, and when I do I like to make 'em as plain as a pikestaff.

This sweating business is really rampant, and I don't believe that one of you would willingly encourage it if you could help it. And you *can* help it by refusing to patronise any tailor who does not guarantee that all garments are made on his own premises and by properly-paid workers. Never mind whether the shop is smart-looking or not; just ask the tailor if you can *see his workrooms*, and if he will guarantee that *none* of his work is put out. If not—well, I've already told you that The Rego Clothiers, Ltd., are ready to give you every satisfaction in this way.

Make Rego your tailors; you'd be astonished if you knew what splendid tailoring they produce at very low prices. Let them make you a suit to measure, and I'll warrant it won't be the last—not by a long way.

Some of you smart young fellows think that you *must* pay fancy prices to get really first-class clothes. Rego will open your eyes—yes, and close your pockets to fancy prices ever more. If you want better clothes than Rego make—well, you won't get 'em anywhere or anyhow.

Why not write a post card to-day for a selection of Rego patterns, and see what extra fine qualities they are offering at 21s. for overcoats and 30s. for suits? You can pay more, of course, but these are the lowest prices.

Guarantees! Yes, certainly, Rego clothes are guaranteed up to the hilt—guaranteed fit, guaranteed workmanship, guaranteed value. Money back to any dissatisfied customer—that is the Rego plan.

Now, just pen your post card to The Rego Clothiers, and follow the strong lead of

Yours truly,
John Bull.

Rego Clothiers LIMITED

(Dept. M), 122, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

E.C.
122, Cheapside.
191, Aldersgate Street.

W.C.
280, High Holborn.

N.
265, Pentonville Road; King's Cross.
40, Caledonian Road, King's Cross.
259, Seven Sisters Road, Finsbury Park.
691, Holloway Road, Highgate.
6, High Street, Islington.

N.W.
183, High Street, Camden Town.
31, High Street, Harlesden.

N.E.
4, High Street, Kingsland.

S.E.
75-77, Powis Street, Woolwich.
3, The Broadway, Deptford.
100, Rye Lane, Peckham.
361-363, Walworth Road.
105, High Street, Chatham.

S.W.
91, High Street, Putney.
14, The Broadway, Walham Green.
87, St. John's Road, Clapham Junction.
103, High Road, Balham.
24, Clarence Street, Kingston.
40, George Street, Richmond.
77-79, North End, Croydon.
18, Atlantic Road, Brixton.

E.
19-20, Aldgate.
134-135, High Street, Shoreditch.
58, The Broadway, Ilford.

W.
288, Edgware Road.
109, King Street, Hammersmith.
262, High Road, Chiswick.
22, Uxbridge Road, Shepherd's Bush

Another Swindle!

How really Genuine Offers are sometimes condemned.

Another swindle! And you would be justified in saying it too. If you had never dealt with H. Thomas & Co. and instead merely glanced at the price and did not investigate offer.

The price is just the point. A well-fitting measure suit, Raincoat or Overcoat for 15/6. True nevertheless! When you see it in JOHN BULL it is so. Isn't the offer underneath worth investigating? It costs just a halfpenny postcard to secure from Thomas & Co. free patterns, inch tape, measure form and fashion sheet.

Don't be sceptical. Realise that Thomas & Co. mean to secure satisfied deal-again customers at all costs.

There you have it, so just send that halfpenny postcard or call to 142, Grays Inn Road, London, W.C. See offer beneath.

SUIT, OVERCOAT or Raincoat 15/6

MADE TO MEASURE.

We realise that to make you a customer we *must* go one better than our competitors, and with this object we will make "John Bull" readers a complete suit or stylish overcoat or guaranteed Raincoat for the absurdly low sum of 15s. 6d.—*to measure too remember.*

Don't be sceptical. Realise that this is an *advertising offer absolutely*, and send us to-day *merely a postcard* for large range of patterns, measure chart and fashion sheet. Mention which patterns and "John Bull," for when you see it there—IT IS SO.

H. THOMAS & CO.,
142 Grays Inn Road, London, W.C.

THE VITAL POWER

of the Human Body. - - It can be regained.

The force that runs the human machine is stored in the nerves. This nervous energy, as it is called, is only another name for electricity.

If any organ of your body is weak and inactive, it means that the nerves which control it lack power. This must be restored before the affected part can perform its proper functions.

It does no good to take drugs for such a condition as this. You can only effect a cure by replacing the energy that has been lost. Drugs are poisons—electricity is life.

Saturate your nerves with the glowing current from the "Ajax" Body Battery for an hour each day. The weak organs will respond to its influence in the same way that an electric motor starts whirling as soon as the power is turned on.

The "Ajax" is a self-charged Body Battery which generates a steady, unbroken stream of galvanic electricity, and infuses it into the nerves in just the right volume. It builds up vitality and strength, and cures all ailments resulting from a debilitated state of the nerves and vital organs.

Men who suffer from failing vitality debility, or any of the usual weaknesses, will find that the "Ajax" Body Battery, together with electric suspensory attachment, will quickly put them in good condition. It is a natural remedy, and those who have used it will tell you that it does all we claim for it.

THIS IS FREE

We'll send you our Free Book, closely sealed, which tells all about the Battery, how it cures, and what it does. This book is illustrated, and explains many things you should know about the cause and cure of disease. If you want to be the man Nature intended you to be, send for the book at once. We have a book for women also.

THE BRITISH ELECTRIC INSTITUTE.
Dept. 41, 25, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.

AJAX LTD.

KIDNEY PARALYSIS

Follows acute Inflammation—Cured by Dr. Cassell's Tablets.

Mr. Rowen, Keighley.

A case which has caused a great sensation, not only in the district in which it occurred, but throughout the country, is that of Mr. Samuel Rowen, of 34, Broom Street, Park Lane, Keighley. For 12 years Mr. Rowen suffered from wasting Paralysis, yet Dr. Cassell's Tablets made a well man of him, and to-day he comes forward again to testify to the permanence of his cure. Seen recently by a representative, he said:

"It gives me great pleasure to tell you that I have kept in good health ever since Dr. Cassell's Tablets cured me some six years ago.

"It was a wonderful cure, too. For no less than 12 years I have been so lame from Paralysis that I could not get about at all without the help of a stick. I slept badly, and, as for eating, I could hardly touch food. Naturally, I wasted away to a mere shadow. The trouble all came on with a severe chill I caught while at work. This led to acute inflammation of the kidneys, and after then came the Paralysis, and though I saw doctor after doctor—seven altogether—none of them could do me any good.

"They all admitted that my case puzzled them. I had been in four hospitals, too, and still I was no better; indeed, I was getting worse all the time. I don't know what I hadn't tried; but everything proved useless till in the end I got Dr. Cassell's Tablets.

"I soon knew I had got the right thing at last, for I found myself improving with the first small bottle. I was stronger and better in every way. After a short course I was so well that I could walk 20 miles without undue fatigue. That was an important thing to me, for I get my living out of doors. Since then, as I say, I have kept well, taking an occasional dose of Dr. Cassell's Tablets, which I shall never cease to praise."

SEND FOR A FREE BOX.

Send your name and address and two penny stamps for postage, etc., to Dr. Cassell's Co., Ltd. (Box A24), Chester Road, Manchester, and you will receive a trial box free.

Dr. Cassell's Tablets

strengthen and restore every organ of the body, re-establish the vital forces, give tone to the nerves, and generate new life for the whole system. They act more brilliantly than any other medicine known, in cases of Nervous Breakdown, Nerve and Spinal Paralysis, Infantile Paralysis, Neurasthenia, Nervous Debility, Sleeplessness, Anæmia, Kidney and Stomach Disorders, Children's Weakness, and General Bodily Fatigue, Brain Fag and all run-down conditions. They are quite safe for even the youngest child or most delicate invalid. All chemists sell Dr. Cassell's Tablets at 10½d., 1s. 1½d., and 2s. 9d. The 2s. 9d. size is the most economical.

TAPPING THE TELEPHONE.

By Our Pet "Hello" Girl.

CHURCHILL AND REDMOND.

Hallo! . . . Hallo-allo-allo!! . . . *Are* you there? . . . Is that you, Redmond? . . . Then why the devil d'you keep me waiting like this? . . . I've been ringing and shouting for five minutes. . . . Busy? . . . Busy be blowed! . . . Oh, you were, were you? . . . Making out the list of your first Cabinet, eh? . . . Ha, ha! . . . Pretty amusement. . . . I wouldn't be in too much of a hurry about that if I were you. . . . You may find you're counting your chick——eh? . . . What did I ring you up about? . . . Why, that speech of yours last week at Limerick. . . . I want to know what on earth you mean by it. . . . What's your game? . . . You don't seem to realise who I am. . . . After my speech at Dundee suggesting the exclusion of the Orange counties as a possible solution of the Home Rule deadlock, you try to make me look a fool by ridiculing the idea. . . . I don't like it, I tell you straight. . . . I've helped your cause as far as I possibly could—often against my own private convictions—and this is your return when I try to get you out of a hole . . . It isn't cricket. . . . But there, I suppose it isn't much use expecting "cricket" from a Home Rule fanatic . . . Yes, that is what I said—and I meant it . . . a *fanatic!* . . . I'll say it again if you like. . . . You're not only a fanatic where Ireland is concerned, but a fool into the bargain. . . . So you are. . . . Who but a fool would have said that my proposal hadn't a friend in Ireland? . . . You know as well as I do that thousands of Home Rulers would be only too glad if Ulster was cut out of the Bill, and the whole thing settled. . . . And so would *you* be, if it wasn't for the money question. . . . You know that Ireland without Ulster would be more bankrupt than it is now, so you talk a lot of rot about "mutilating the nation." . . . *What* nation? . . The Irish nation? . . What is it? . . . Why, every schoolboy knows that the Ulster Orangemen are Scotch Presbyterians who wouldn't acknowledge themselves Hibernians to save their lives . . . Nation, indeed! . . . Positive piffle—that's what it is! . . . Now, look here; so far as I can see, the principal hindrance to the immediate settlement of the Home Rule question is yourself. . . . You're greedy. . . . You've played with the Government so long that you think you can go on playing with it for ever. . . . But I tell you straight, I, for one, am getting pretty sick of it. . . . My voice carries some weight in the Cabinet now, you know, and Mr. Asquith and the rest—with one or two unimportant exceptions—wouldn't like to see me throw up my job and go back to the Tories. . . . But I tell you, once for all, if you pick my speeches to pieces any more, and sneer at my suggestions as you have done, I shall say, "To hell with Ireland!" and leave you all to stew in your own juice. . . . I'm not sure that I shall not take up the Business Government idea. . . . There's something in it. . . . No, I'm not upsetting myself. . . . Nothing of the sort. . . . Certainly, I'm annoyed, and with very good reason. . . . No, no; it's no use talking to me like that. . . . I'm not one of your Limerick audience, ready to swallow anything you say. . . . I don't want your blarney, and I decline to tread on the tail of your coat. . . . But I say this, once and for all—unless you open your eyes pretty soon to the realities of Ulster's resistance you'll find yourself in the soup. . . . The Government can't keep messing about with Home Rule all the time. . . . Here's Lloyd George opened his Land Campaign, for one thing; I've got some important suggestions to bring forward concerning Naval Defence at the first opportunity, and there's the Welsh Bill to push through. . . . But all these things are being held up by your damned stubbornness, and because you won't open your eyes to facts. . . . What's that? . . . . Don't relish being talked to like that by a mere boy, eh? . . . I don't mind that. . . . It's cheap. . . . I may be a boy, as politicians go, but that's an advantage. . . . No one can tell me I'm old enough to know better, but that's what I take leave to tell you. . . . Well, don't do it again. . . . When I make a speech, let it alone—don't make a mock of it. . . . D'you hear? . . . Hallo! . . . I say! . . . I believe he's rung off. . . . Well, he's had a basting, anyhow, and I feel better now. (*Tingalingaling!*)

CURING ILL-HEALTH BY NATURAL METHODS.

The Standwell Method of Treatment by Curative Exercise, Diet and Hygiene.

By adopting Natural Methods you can be positively cured of your ailments, and completely and permanently build up your health and energy, without drugs or medicine, and without any great expense or trouble.

Thousands now freed from the burden of continually drugging have proved the curative value of my Natural Methods in those common forms of illness, such as

INDIGESTION	RHEUMATISM	SICK HEADACHE
KIDNEY TROUBLE	CONSTIPATION	HEART WEAKNESS
SLUGGISH LIVER	OBESITY	BILIOUSNESS
SKIN DISORDERS	NERVOUS DEBILITY	ANAEMIA
NEURASTHENIA	SPINAL CURVATURE	INSOMNIA

FEMALE AILMENTS, etc.

You cannot afford to neglect your health, or waste time and money any longer on drugs and medicines which prove worse than useless. Why not adopt a treatment which removes the cause of illness, and

LET NATURAL METHODS CURE *YOU*.

My method of treatment—Curative Exercise, Diet and Hygiene—is not only natural, scientific and individual, it is based on practical knowledge, the result of over 20 years experience of curing illness without medicine, and for many years as Chief Prescriber and Director of Exercises at the Largest Curative Institute in the Kingdom.

I treat every case separately and personally, and can guarantee results. My fee is LESS THAN ONE-THIRD the usual charge. ONLY £1 1s. FOR THREE MONTHS TREATMENT.

T. H. Standwell

Consulting Specialist in Physical Culture and Diet.

Fill in and post this Coupon.

To MR. T. W. STANDWELL,
The Curative Institute, 66, Park Road, Merton, London.

Please forward me your free booklet explaining the cure of illness by Natural Methods, and state whether my case is one for your treatment.

State Complaint .....

Name .....

Address .....

Name and Address plainly, and enclose 1d. stamp for postage.

J.B. 25-10-13.

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Outclasses all old fashioned methods. Foolscap size complete 15/- carriage paid United Kingdom. Money refunded if not satisfactory. List No. 34 and specimens free:—

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which will afford fullest scope for your Special Capabilities, get into touch with it through Hapgoods. We bring together Men of Special Ability, and employers seeking Capable Men to fill the Responsible Positions they have open—positions carrying salaries of from £120 to £2,000 a year. If you are a really first-class man—and your record is good—write us to-day.

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Learn to SKETCH in 2 hours

Our Booklet S, sent post free, will tell you all about it. Write to-day to Secretary, A.B.C. School of Drawing, 46 Chancery Lane, London.

CURATIVE PHYSICAL CULTURE.

My system will cure Indigestion, Liver Complaints, Constipation, etc., and give physical fitness to business men and the middle-aged. Write for particulars, enclosing 1d. stamp to:—

EDWARD ASTON,
6, Aston House, Golder's Green, London, N.W.

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A CHAUFFEUR or qualify for any position in the Motor Industry?

If so, we advise you to apply AT ONCE to the British Motor Industry's training centre. POPULAR COURSE of unlimited practical instruction in Motor Car Driving, Mechanism and running repairs on the road until you state in writing that you are satisfied and proficient. Lowest inclusive Fee. Highest Standard training. This Course entitles you to the certificate and free introduction to positions through the B.S.M. Employment Department licensed LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL. No extra Charges. Call or send a postcard for free prospectus (J).

THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF MOTORING,
Coventry House, 5, Coventry Street, Piccadilly Circus, London, W.

GRAVES DEPENDABLE VALUES. GRAVES CONVENIENT TERMS.

GRAVES CYCLES.

The GRAVES 'Speed King' Modele de Luxe is the last word in Cycle-building excellence, and it is outside the resources of the Cycle Industry to produce anything better. Compare our specification with that of any other make of Cycle.

10/- NOW

WE DELIVER the Graves 'Speed King' Model de Luxe (Lady's or Gent's) guaranteed exactly to specification, Carriage Paid to all approved orders for **10/-** Now. Balance in equal Monthly Payments after delivery if you are entirely satisfied. The machine is fully guaranteed for Ten Years, and the fullest approval is allowed. If you are in any way disappointed, simply return the machine to us carriage forward, and we will immediately refund your money in full.

SPECIFICATION:

REYNOLDS' STEEL TUBING; DUNLOP FIRST GRADE TYRES; PHILLIPS YOKE & HINGE BRAKES; STURMEY-ARCHER 2-SPEED GEAR; HANS RENOLD ROLLER CHAIN; BROOKS' PLATED SPRING SADDLE; WILLIAMS CHAIN WHEEL & CRANKS; HOFFMANNS' STEEL BALLS AND DOVER GRIPS AND LEVER TIPS.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE.

A Post Card will bring our latest Catalogue of Cycles, exhibiting a full range of Ladies' and Gent's Models, including 'All-weather' all-black and Tradesmen's Carrier Cycles with detailed specifications and full particulars of our convenient and equitable Easy Payment Terms. It costs nothing to secure this interesting and practical book, and it saves you pounds.

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD.

GRAVES SHEFFIELD CUTLERY AND PLATE

WE DELIVER the Graves Genuine Sheffield Cutlery Service comprising **50** pieces without case, to all approved orders for **3/-** Now, and the balance in nine monthly payments of **3/-** if you are entirely satisfied with the goods after full examination. **2/-** in the £ Discount Cash with order

THE KNIVES are of well tempered genuine Sheffield Steel, fitted with Ivorette handles in perfect imitation of African Ivory. **The Spoons and Forks** are of Columbian Silver, a hard white metal indistinguishable from sterling silver. Will last a lifetime and wear while all through.

THE GRAVES SERVICE COMPRISES:

6 TABLE KNIVES	6 EGG SPOONS
6 TABLE FORKS	2 TABLE SPOONS
6 DESSERT KNIVES	1 SALT SPOON
6 DESSERT FORKS	1 SUGAR SPOON
6 DESSERT SPOONS	1 SUGAR TONGS
6 TEA SPOONS	1 JAM SPOON

1 PAIR SHEAR STEEL CARVERS, CURVED BLADE IVORETTE HANDLES.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE of genuine Sheffield Cutlery & Electro Plate Post Free to any address.

3/- NOW.

J. G. GRAVES Ltd. SHEFFIELD.

GRAVES STYLISH COSTUMES.

Every lady should certainly send a post card for our handsome display of new and fashionable Costume Styles, charmingly illustrated in colours, and including patterns of the most tasteful and becoming cloths for present wear. Our pictures show the exact styles of the garments and the patterns enable you to judge the quality, appearance, and finish of the materials. Prices range from **21/-** up to **50/-**, and we deliver any costume carriage paid to approved orders for **5/-** now balance being payable in equal monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied with the Fit, Quality, and Value after you have tried the Costume on in your own home. If for any reason you are disappointed, we will immediately return money in full.

5/- Monthly.

You need have no hesitation in ordering from us, as quite apart from our positive guarantee of satisfaction, we offer you the choice of the finest productions of the foremost Costume-designers in the country. It is entirely owing to our enormous trade that we are enabled to command the services of the cleverest artists whose hands and brains are constantly evolving handsome models which lead the way in grace and elegance, and are endowed with distinctive charm and beauty. Even our lowest-priced styles are distinguished by an unmistakeable note of refinement which one is accustomed to look for only in garments offered at much higher prices.

SEND FOR PATTERNS. You will be amply repaid for writing, and will be surprised to find how easy it is to dress in good taste if you avail yourself of our convenient Easy Payment Terms or 2/- in the £ Cash Discount.

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD

SOUND FOOTWEAR

Has it ever occurred to you that you spend too much on your footwear? If so, you should send a post card to-day for our handsomely Illustrated **Album of High-grade Footwear** for Men, Women, and Children. This book contains photographs taken direct from an extensive selection of Boots & Shoes of sterling quality, all of which are made on the latest hygienic principles, and guaranteed to give satisfaction in fit, wear, and appearance. This book will shew you how you can effectively curtail your boot bill. We deliver Footwear carriage paid to all approved orders on receipt of small payment now, and balance by equal monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied. **Ask for Boot Catalogue.**

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD.

ELEGANT CLOCKS.

If you will write for our latest **Illustrated Catalogue of Clocks** you will be surprised at the great variety and elegance of the designs we show. This book displays Clocks of every description for all purposes, Dining Room, Drawing Room, Bedroom, Hall, and also for Schools, Hotels etc. Each clock is a model of grace and beauty, and the remarkably handsome design in Marbles, Woods and Metals are a revelation to those who have not previously seen our clock book. A point to note is: all our timepieces are of undeniable quality & precise adjustment which ensures accurate time-keeping and long service. Any clock delivered Carriage Paid to approved orders for a small payment now, balance in equal monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied after full examination, **2/-** in the £ Cash Discount. **Ask for Clock Book**

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD

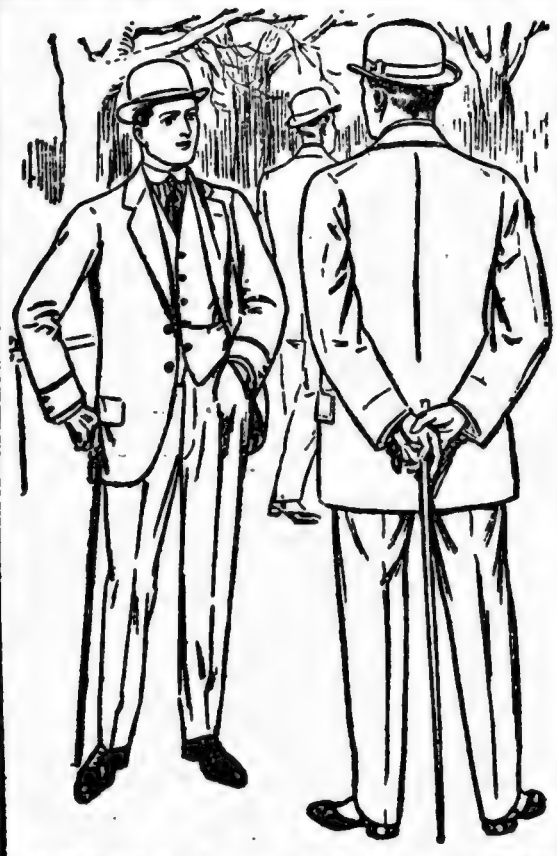
GRAVES FINE WATCHES AND JEWELLERY.

You should write at once for our enlarged catalogue, which contains some of the most beautiful examples of the Goldsmith's art ever printed on paper: Charming 18ct Gold Engagement and Dress Rings, skilfully set with Diamonds, Rubies, Emeralds, Sapphires, Pearls & other precious stones of guaranteed quality, elegant Gold Brooches, Pendants, Bracelets, of chaste design and exquisite finish, & also Necklets, Lockets, Seals, & Ladies' and Gents.' Watches in great variety all of the highest excellence.

5/- NOW

Our Book shows an enormous display of Lovely Gold Jewellery at keenly competitive prices, all supplied carriage paid to approved orders on easy payment Terms or Discount for Cash with order. Fullest approval allowed, and your money immediately refunded in full if you are in any way disappointed. **Ask for Catalogue B**

J. G. Graves Ltd. SHEFFIELD



GRAVES TWO-GUINEA SUITS

Smartness of Dress as well as smartness of Brain is essential in the present day struggle for position. No one can afford to neglect his appearance. In business and society appearance means much, and it needs an exceedingly clever man to overcome the manifold disadvantages of shabby attire. It is not worth while to be poorly dressed when the convenience of the Graves system is considered. For **6/-** down you can secure a well-made, well-fitting suit, and spread the balance over the next few months.

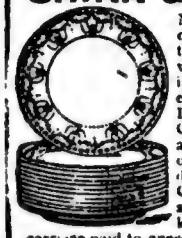
6/- NOW

WE DELIVER your Suit exactly to your measures, Carriage Paid to approved orders, for **6/-** with order. The balance to be completed in monthly payments of **6/-** if you are entirely satisfied with the **Fit, Quality and Value** of the Suit after you have tried it on in your own home. Money instantly refunded in full if you are in any way disappointed.

IT WILL PAY YOU to look into this unusual clothing proposal. Send a postcard to-day and secure our full range of cloth samples we are now making up at **35/-** and **42/-** and including patterns of **Tweeds, Cheviots, Worsted Serges, Plain Black and Blue Viennas**, and a splendid line in hard-wearing **Yorkshire Suitings**. Say if Light or Dark Patterns are preferred.

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD.

CHINA & GLASSWARE.



Nothing gives a meal a daintier look or does the housewife greater credit than a handsome service of china ware. Odds and ends, though good in themselves, completely spoil the effect of the most bountiful spread. In our new Catalogue of Glass and Chinaware will be found the choicest and prettiest Dinner and Tea Services one could wish to see, also graceful designs in Toilet and Trinket Sets, Clock Sets, & a large variety of useful and ornamental ware, all marked at keenly competitive prices, & delivered carriage paid to approved orders for small payment now, and balance in equal monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied after examination in your own home. **Money back in full if you are disappointed. 2/-** in £ Discount.

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD.

CLINCHER TYRES

We supply this world-renowned make of Tyre at rock-bottom cash prices on Easy Terms. Any grade of **'Clincher' Tyres** supplied to approved orders for small payment with order and the balance to be completed in equal monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied after full examination in your own home. All Tyres carry the Manufacturers' Guarantee.

The 'Clincher' Popular Tyre. Wired or Beaded edge, as ordered. Supplied 28 x 1½ only. Price, Cover and Tube, **11/3** 2/3 Monthly

The 'Clincher' B Tyre. Wired edge. Supplied in the following sizes: 26 x 1¾; 28 x 1¾; 26 x 1½; 26 x 1¾; 26 x 1¾; 28 x 1¾ Price, Cover and Tube, **12/1** 2/8 Monthly. Beaded edge, 3d. extra.

The 'Clincher' A Won Roadster Cycle Tyre, wired or beaded edge as ordered. Supplied in the following sizes: 26 x 1¾; 28 x 1¾; 26 x 1¾; 26 x 1½; 26 x 1¾; 28 x 1¾ Price, Cover and Tube. **17/-** 2/10 Monthly.

The 'Clincher' Vacuum Grooved Tyre, with wired or beaded edge, as ordered. Supplied in the same sizes as the 'A Won' Tyre. Price, Cover and Tube, **18/-** 3/- Monthly.

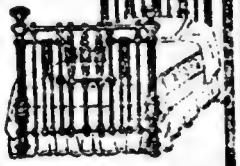
WRITE FOR NEW CATALOGUE POST FREE

Send post card to-day for our handsomely illustrated Catalogue of 'Clincher' **Cycle** and **Motor Cycle** Tyres, all of which we supply on easy terms at cash prices. Prices from **7/6**

J. G. GRAVES Ltd. SHEFFIELD.

STRONG BEDSTEADS

In our beautifully **Illustrated Catalogue**, which we shall be pleased to send you on request, we show a splendid range of **Metal and Wood Bedsteads** designed in tasteful style, and constructed throughout on sound up-to-date hygienic principles.



Any Bedstead delivered carriage paid to approved orders for small payment now and balance in equal monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied with appearance, quality, and value. **2/-** in £ Discount cash with order.

Graves Hygienic Bedding

Before purchasing Bedding of any description you should send for our **Bedding Catalogue.** We warrant our Bedding thoroughly clean and sterilised, and deliver any quantity, carriage paid, to approved orders, for small payment now and the balance in equal monthly payments.

J. G. GRAVES Ltd. SHEFFIELD.

LAYS OF A LOWLY LONDONER.

By Bill the 'Busman.

THE COCKNEY'S ACRE.

Sometimes I think a life of peace,
  Without no toil or fuss,
Would be a welcome sort of change
  From steering of a 'bus.

I hear them talk of country life,
  Where little seeds you sow,
Then all you do is sit and watch
  The fat crops as they grow.

I picture myself, Cockney born,
  A-farming like the dickens,
And daily milking of the cows—
  And egging of the chickens.

A fellow comes around to me,
  Perhaps he wanted votes;
But he could talk just like a book,
  And what he says I notes.

He said that towns is overstocked,
  The country nearly bare;
In London town we're like sardines,
  There's room for all out there.

What we must do is free the land,
  Once get that in our noddles,
And no one need live five flights up
  In some Peabody's Models.

Instead of smoke, fresh air for all,
  And green fields for the asking;
The wife, the kids, and we may soon
  In Paradise be basking.

A cottage and an acre, where
  A man may breathe his fill;
"The simple life appeals to you?"
  He asks of Simple Bill.

"You bet," says I, "but think of me,
  A chap who's used to town;
Should I be made to settle just
Where they might dump me down?"

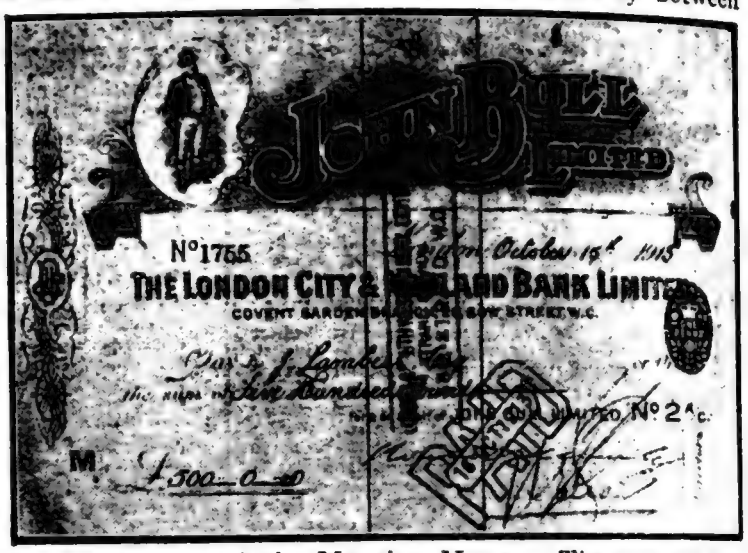
Says he, "Down-trodden working-men
  Have but to lift their voice
And when the land is free for all
  Then each shall have his choice."

The offer seemed too good to lose;
  Said I, "Count me a taker,
And when the land's divided up
  I'll claim my rightful acre.

"While as for choice of spot, look down
  As due to Simple Bill,
One acre of good freehold land—
  In Cheapside or Cornhill!"

OUR 52ND "BULLETS" COMPETITION.

Mr. Lambert Isaacs ("I. Lambert" being a pseudonym obtained by reversing his real name), of 21, Marlow Buildings, Calvert Avenue, London, N.E., the winner of our 52nd "Bullets" competition, tells us that he is a clerk in the Civil Service and will be twenty-six years of age next month. The solution was entirely his own, and occurred to him while travelling on the District Railway between



Charing Cross and the Mansion House. The coupon was not posted until midnight on Tuesday, though efforts had to reach Long Acre not later than the first post Wednesday. He correctly draws the inference that this proves that every "Bullet" sent in, whether early or just in time, is judged with equal care.

The original of the above cheque will be displayed at the premises of Mr. E. Gander, 103, Hackney Road, N.E.

Keep your Boys at Home.

Your boys will be delighted with a Billiard Table in the home. No matter how small your room is, there is a Riley Table to fit it. Riley's Miniature Billiard Tables give a perfect game—so truly are they proportioned. Prices from £3 7s. 6d. The 6 ft. 4 in. size at **£5 5s.** is suitable for most rooms. Riley's Combine Billiard and Dining Tables from £13 10s. Cash or Easy Payments. Prices include all accessories and seven days' free trial. **FREE on receipt of postcard. full detailed Illustrated Catalogue.**

E. J. RILEY, LTD., Imperial Mills, Accrington.

L82 *London Showrooms:* 47, *Aldersgate Street, E.C.*

WELL IN THE FRONT

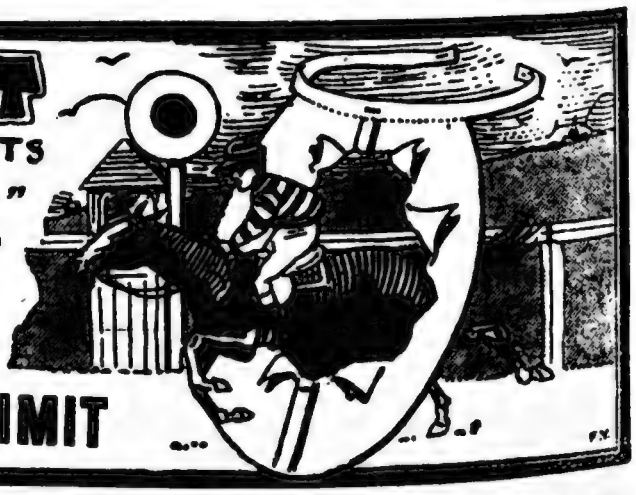
FOR HONEST DEALING AND PROMPT PAYMENTS

Drop a Postcard for the "Wee Tartan Book"

YOUR WINNINGS ARE SENT BY FIRST POST AFTER THE RACE IS OVER.

JOHN McLAUCHLAN LETTER COMMISSIONS FROM 1/- TO ANY AMOUNT.

54, GORDON ST., GLASGOW. ALSO AT LUCERNE. **NO LIMIT**



NO LIMIT CREDIT ACCOUNTS

Apply with approved references

54, GORDON STREET, GLASGOW.

SALE

IMPORTANT PRIVATE SALE OF SECOND-HAND MODERN & ANTIQUE FURNITURE

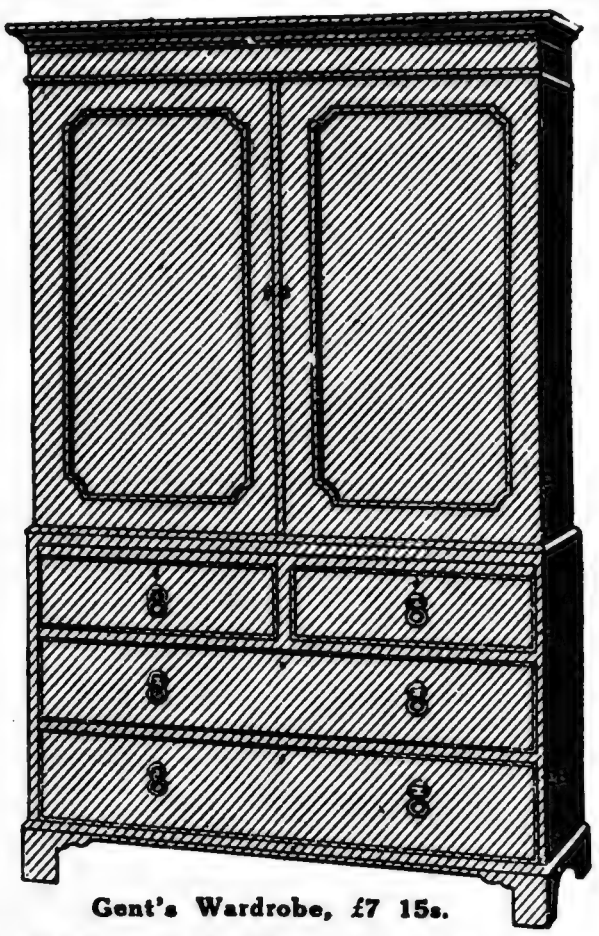
SALE

Re His Grace The Duke of Rutland, Lady Alice Haste.
The Rt. Hon. Viscount Peel, The Late Sir Whittaker Ellis,
The Late Rt. Hon. Lord Lister, and several others.

SEND FOR FULLY ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE.

Goods not required at once can remain stored until required free of charge. All goods packed and Delivered Free of Charge. Special Department for Shipping.

The following, amongst others, a few of the Bargains now to be had:—Mahogany chest of drawers **£3 10s.**; inlaid mahogany Sheraton design bedroom suite, **£7 10s.**; oak bedroom suite, with full chest of drawers; **£4 7s. 6d.**; 3-ft. oak bedstead with spring, overlay mattress, bolster, and pillow, **35s.**; adjustable end Chesterfield in art tapestry, **£3 15s.**; pair of twin Sheraton design bedsteads, **£2 10s.**; double inlaid mahogany bedroom suite, **£12 12s.**; full-size inlaid mahogany bedstead and wire springs, **£3 10s.**; white enamelled bedroom suite, **£4 4s.**; another, larger size, **£7 10s.**; very fine oak bedroom suite (large size), **£8 19s. 6d.**; worth double; full-size oak bedstead, complete with bedding, **£3 10s.**; about 20 odd easy chairs, **18s. 6d.**; white and brass bedsteads, **21s.**; full-size black and brass bedstead, with wire spring, overlay, bolster, and two pillows, **£2 10s.**; large walnut bedroom suite, double glass door to wardrobe, **£14 14s.**; 6 ft. 6 in. Sheraton bedroom suite, **28 Gns.**; 7-ft. bow front bedroom suite, inlaid mahogany Sheraton design, **£65**; a very handsome exhibition satinwood bedroom suite, **£150** (worth treble).



Gent's Wardrobe, £7 15s.

BEDROOM CARPETS in **AXMINSTER PILE, WILTON, ROMAN SQUARES,** and other **CARPETS** and **RUGS** to match.

2 BOUDOIR PIANOS by Broadwood and Collard and Collard, piano in walnut case by Oetzmann, **£9 9s.**; another by Owen Stodart, **£11 11s.**; piano in rosewood case by Beuder and Opp, **£15 17s. 6d.**; piano in ebonised case by Gustav Richter, **£19 19.**; an overstrung piano by Emil Pauer, **£28**; and several others by eminent makers; the largest selection of pianos in London. Choice design Louis XVI. design gilt suite, upholstered in French silk tapestry, **£18 18s.**; very fine artistic design Vernis Martin cabinet, with hand panels, **£14 14s.**; 20 Louis XV. gilt cane-seated chairs, **22s. 6d.** each; elegant design inlaid china cabinet, **£4 15s.**; very artistic design Chesterfield suite, comprising settee, 2 lounge easy chairs, and 4 solid mahogany small chairs **£12 19s. 6d.**; specimen table **0s.**; Chippendale design cabinet, **£4 4s.**; 20 occasional chairs, **8s. 6d.** each; overstrung upright piano in rosewood case, by Carl Strauss, **25 gns.**; adjustable end Chesterfield, **£3 15s.**; an all-brass curb and fire implements, **30s.**; an inlaid Sheraton design writing table, **£7 10s.**; Sheraton design bureau bookcase, **£7 15s.**; 6 ft 6 in. double-sprung Chesterfield and 2 very large easy chairs, **£10 15s.**; Buhl cabinet, writing table, cabinets, &c., &c.

The DINING-ROOMS, LIBRARIES, SMOKING-ROOMS

comprise a very fine range of mahogany and oak dining-room chairs, Chesterfields, bookcases, &c., &c. Extending dining table **35s.**; 30 Queen Anne design chairs, **25s.** each; 4ft. 6in. oak sideboard, **£4 4s.**; easy chairs, **32s. 6d.**; handsome Sheraton design rail-back sideboard, **£8 15s.**; open dwarf bookcase, **25s.**; artistic design set ball and claw mahogany chairs, **£13 13s.**; 6-ft Louis XV. design sideboard, **£16 10s.**; very comfortable leather easy chairs, **£4 4s.**; Queen Anne design bow front buffet sideboard, **£9 10s.**; set of chairs to match, **£7 15s.**; Queen Anne dining table, **£3 10s.**; well-upholstered leather Chesterfield and 2 easies, **£16 10s.**; 6 ft. 6 in. Chippendale design breakfront bookcase, **£14 14s.**; several canteens of cutlery, table linen, and bed linen in stock, and can be seen daily, 9 till 8, with the exception of Saturday, when we close at 1 o'clock.

SEND FOR FULLY ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE POST FREE.

THE NEWMAN & OXFORD STREET FURNITURE & ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES, LTD.,

92, 93, 94, NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.

HOURS OF BUSINESS, 9 till 8, excepting Saturdays, when we close at 1. 'PHONE: 1307 Central.

Cab fares refunded to all Buyers.

John Bull's Letter Bag.

The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when writing regarding previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of INQUIRIES *received, consequent upon the continual growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and* ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

CORRESPONDENTS desiring INFORMATION *should place their questions in* CONCISE *form and refrain from sending* VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENTS, *at any rate until asked for them. The Editor is quite unable to devote the time necessary for perusing and considering the scores of folios which correspondents sometimes send.*

For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 632.
For Sporting Replies, see page 636.

J. H. (Glasgow).—Your figures are as faulty as your spelling.

W. J. H. (Belgian Congo).—Theoretically, no member of Parliament can "resign," consequently he has to be appointed Steward of the Chiltern Hundreds, or of the Manor of Northstead, which are nominally offices of profit under the Crown, necessitating re-election. His seat, therefore, becomes void, and by not standing again a vacancy is created.

"MONA" (Cumberland), sent the Highbury Furnishing Co., of Upper Street, Islington, 8s. on August 11th, and duly signed their agreement. No goods have, however, yet been delivered, despite repeated applications, nor has the money been returned. By almost the same post a similar complaint reached us from another reader; we are afraid, therefore, that the Highbury Company are still continuing the trick which we exposed as long ago as June, 1909. In the case which then called forth our criticism a County Court summons soon obtained a refund.

J. W. HANCOCK (Hillsbro,' Sheffield) is in fear and trembling lest he should be mistaken for "Comic Hancock," a specimen of whose sublime poetry we published in our Letter Bag columns on August 23rd. Evidently J. W. of that ilk has no hankering for poetic fame.

A. J. A. (Bristol).—So the Bristol Insurance Committee would not let your panel doctor prescribe the physic that did your asthma more good than anything else, because it is a patent medicine. If we were your panel doctor, we think we could hoodwink the Committee somehow.

W. D. (Abernethy) desires to become a steward, and asks whether we think it advisable to apply to the Manager, 472, High Road, Chiswick. We do not.

F. D. N. P. (Johannesburg).—We note that Elmer E. Knowles has sent you the old, old stereotyped letter telling the old, old yarn in reply to our criticisms of his humbugging concerns. Keep your money in your pocket; you'll have a lot of hard work to get it back if it goes into his.

"4D."—We can quite believe you miss your fourpence more than you would miss Lloyd George. No doubt he *is* enshrined in the hearts of great numbers of his countrymen—more especially those who have got jobs under the Insurance Act.

J. B. (Batley).—Yes, but Watson's tell you that, not wishing you to lose the value of your wrappers, they send you a usable coupon to value in lieu. If the exchange is a genuine one, how are you hurt?

"NARK" (Portsmouth).—"Does Mr. R. S. Sievier ever do bookmaking?" Ask Mr. Sievier.

G. H. (Stroud Green).—Lady clerks are, we believe, employed as typists at the Bank of England, but doubtless require the nomination of a director, and have to pass an examination. Your best course would be to communicate with the Secretary, City of London College, Moorfields, who, we believe, is responsible for the conduct of the entry examinations for most of the Banks.

M. R. D. (Vancouver).—We are at our wits' end what to do about all our overseas correspondence. We could fill JOHN BULL three times over every week with nothing else. Readers should remember that the publication of long letters is out of the question. Those tersely and clearly expressed naturally come under the "favoured nation" clause.

"A. P." (Sheffield).—The Waterman Advertising Company, of 43, Theobalds Road, London, is a swindle which we have repeatedly exposed. Its "stylos" are worthless, while the offer of exorbitant payment for addressing envelopes is a mere catch. We thought these rascals had deemed it wiser to save their skins by flight—but apparently they are up to their old tricks again. The concern is, of course, in no way connected with the well-known Waterman Fountain Pen Company.

"ONE OF THE BOYS" (Errol).—If you ask us, Sir Thomas Lipton is not the author of the poem, "Sir Lipton's 'Shamrock' was a yacht, With sails as white as snow, And everywhere the 'Shamrock' went, The wind refused to blow." The bright genius who evolved this is unknown to us, but it was probably either Shakespeare or Mr. Phil Ray.

"LIFE GUARD" (Hyde Park, W.).—We are tired of receiving Captain Walter Rand's drivelling pamphlets, and the dustman who removes them is beginning to complain also.

E. H. (Hastings).—He is not the first visitor who has been shocked by the notice at the entrance to the skating rink on the Palace Pier that "skaters are required to leave all articles of clothing in the cloak-room before entering the rink." What a mercy they are permitted to wear their boots!

C. W. A. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—The guarantee by the Central Advertising Agency, of Heanor, Derbyshire, is worthless, because no firm can honestly guarantee that their clients will obtain a Government post after training.

W. C. (Leytonstone).—The African Ostrich Farm Co., Ltd., 109, Oxford Street, London, W., in advertising ostrich feathers at 2s. each, or 2 for 3s. 6d., as illustrated, are trading on human credulity. You were wise in keeping your money in your pocket.

E. M. H. H. (Eastbourne).—Scores of times within the last year or two we have informed correspondents that McKean, the mail order man in Westminster Bridge Road, was in fact a swindling Yankee adventurer named Pather or Knowles, whose speciality is the discovery and classification of fools and the way to bleed them. Notwithstanding all this, he has got 13s. 4d. out of you, and you innocently ask, "Can you advise me?" We advise you to get your money back—if you can.

"OUTRAGED."—Of course, your brother was wrong in coming into the bath-room for an article when you were "standing up in it stark naked," and his argument with you that he had a right to do so as you were his brother, and that you were too prudish, is all wrong. Either lock the door or don't wash till dark.

H. W. E. (Andover).—This to you from the L. and S.W. Railway: "Parcels Advice Note. Gentlemen,—A Bale of Ice has been received at this station addressed to you from Southampton. . . . If not applied for within six months from date hereof, it will be sold." Don't you believe it.

"MILDRED GENTLE" (Russell Square).—We hope you are, Mildred. What you say about "Holidays" is perfectly correct: "Here they come! Here they come, holiday leaving! . . . Parson declares that his flock has been straying, Far from the fold while his back has been turned, Doctor accuses his *locum* of slaying, Patients whose ailments his living has earned, Father (poor dad) as a rule uncomplaining, Throws out a hint of a balance decreased . . ."

"TERRITORIAL" (Stoke) has worked 15 years for one firm, and in that time has had only 8 weeks' holiday. This year upon his return from camp his employers told him that his services were no longer required. He says that the manager is secretary of a Football Association. Our friend has made a little mistake. He should have been a footballer instead of a Territorial.

J. B. (Stockport) and OTHERS.—Yes, we *did* read what the "Man in the Street" said in the *Daily Sketch*, but even good things like that have to take their turn.

N. R. (London).—Surely it is obvious that "Professor C. Van Dezaar," of Forest Mansion, Haarlem, Holland, is a brazen charlatan, whether as an astrologer or mail order specialist, when he tells you to fill in one of his order forms immediately and he will "place you in such a position that you can hold up your head against the highest in the land and sign your signature to a cheque payable at sight for £50,000 in a very short period." We suspect "Van Dezaar" to be connected with the Westminster Bridge Road Yankee gang.

Now is the time to "Bullet." Prizes value over £1,750 weekly.

"MRS. REBECCA" (Hull).—If people would only read such trickily worded catchpenny advertisements carefully before sending their deposits, the weight of our Letter Bag would be decreased by about three tons a week. Insist upon the return of your money from the Lancashire Clothing Club, 13, Harold Street, Burnley, Lancs.

J. T. (Strathcona, Alberta).—Although you have nothing much personally to grumble at as a result of your five years in Canada, we note that your case is the exception and not the rule. When you went to investgate about farm work they offered you 75 cents a day and meals, and "don't forget a Canadian day is twenty hours." "If," you add, "I can do anything to stop this crime of getting poor suckers to emigrate to this country, I am your servant. Why, hundreds are walking about here in sunny Alberta doing nothing. Some who arrived here in March are walking about yet." Glad you have made good as a carpenter, anyhow.

J. McB. (Dublin).—So the British Supply Stores of Manchester are pestering you. Another injustice to Ireland! If you want to know the time, ask a policeman, rather than go in for one of their precious 9ct. gold watches at £1. We advise you to demand your deposit back.

A. E. H (Hull).—We cannot trouble ourselves about the Blaina and District Cottage Hospital "Prize Draw." Write to the Secretary.

E. J. S. (Auckland, N.Z.).—If Mr. Walter Macintosh, of 46, Rydevale Road, Balham, is, in fact, willing to send to you 13,000 miles away, his realisticscope with binocular slides on approval and without any charge or obligation to purchase we can see no reason why you should not take advantage of his philanthropic offer. But be careful.

"BUNNY" (E. Greenwich).—We have already exposed the T. C. & T. Mission.

B. L. O. A. (Birmingham).—We must be provided with more particulars before we can say whether or no your son has a right to demand his £3 3s. back from the Commercial Art Reproduction School, of 114, New Oxford Street, W. In any case, however, he is entitled to demand the drawing materials for which, you say, he sent them 5s.

J. C. N. (Fraserburgh).—Instead of constructing more or less intelligible sentences by combining "Bullets" examples, why not devote your energies to making winning "shots"? It might be more profitable for you, and certainly would be less boring for us.

D. T. J. (Nottingham).—Anonymous letter writers are invariably cowards, always difficult, usually impossible, to trace. The one who writes, "If you do not leave this city before a month is out I shall expose you," is of the usual breed. See the Chief Constable and act on his advice.

J. C. S. (Siddington).—Glad we have saved you from the jaws of H. B. Edwards, the Ocean Liners "employment" agent, of Clyde House, Hampton-on-Thames. As you surmise, it was your two shillings he was after.

"OLD CHARLIE" (Tooting) has been a cripple for several years, and wants to get some work. The "professions" that he prefers are:—Night-watchman, day-watchman, gate-keeper, and time-keeper. He points out that most of these positions are held by pensioners, and wants to know why ex-soldiers and ex-sailors in receipt of pensions should have the jobs and keep men like him out of employment. We are afraid we cannot say.

"READER" (Cardiff) wants to know if it is true that the housekeeper of a certain prominent gentleman has supplied him with a son and heir. How should we know?

A. H. (Clapton, N.E.).—We are tired of warning foolish women against the wiles of the bonus tea canvasser. Reduce your wife's dress allowance to teach her a lesson.

M. B. (Ballinamore).—Make no mistake. You Irish are not the only people in the British Isles who have their parcels damaged in the post in consequence of bags having been substituted for hampers. We also have suffered.

J. M. U. (Liverpool).—We are agreed that it is now time the British Clothing Club, of Oldham Street, Manchester, was shut up. Perhaps the Chief Constable will inquire carefully into them, and if the heap of documents in our possession is of any use to him it is at his service.

H. S. (Southampton).—We have frequently warned readers against the Neu Vita Association, and we are not at all surprised that, in your own words, they have "had" you.

"EMIGRANT" (Perth, W.A.).—We attach no importance whatever to statements made by people who are afraid to entrust us with their names and addresses. Your screed is therefore cast into the fiery furnace, there, unlike Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, to be consumed utterly.

"YOURS TRULY" writes:—"I was at a certain Salvation Army hall last night and was accused of being Drunk and Disoriady by the Sergant-Major, who is second in command, which I think is a great insult. I think the generial public oughht to hear of it." It certainly was not a compliment, but we doubt whether it is of much interest to the general public.

S. S. T. (Handsworth) complains that two months ago she sent £4 1s. 9d. for a greenhouse frame to W. Cooper, Limited, of 761, Old Kent Road, but though she has repeatedly written asking for the goods, has received only evasive replies. She asks for our advice—it is that she should issue a County Court summons without delay, as Coopers are notorious offenders in this respect.

W P. (Shipley).—The experience of Mr. Charles Brayshaw, of Fourland Road, Idle (Bradford, Yorks), is not uncommon. The Shipley *Times and Express* says that while in Canada on a recent visit he saw hundreds of out-of-works who would be glad to get back to the old country if they could raise the wind. "The boat on which he returned was full of English people who were returning home, and during the voyage they held a meeting and passed a resolution pledging all present to do their utmost to discourage emigration." Canada would be pretty empty if all the deluded British emigrants there could walk or fly back home.

F. K. H. (Birkenhead).—Read our Letter Bag, then you will know all about such concerns. We have called the business a swindle time and time again.

N. R. (Bangor).—The last answer applies to you also.

"DETECTIVE" (Bayswater).—"Can the word 'detective' without the word 'private' be used on a private card without fear of Scotland Yard taking proceedings? Can a private detective put the word 'detective' after or under his name only?" You are entitled to call yourself "detective" if you please, but in doing so you must be careful not to do anything to delude anybody into the belief that you are an officer in the Police Service.

"OLD READER" (London, E.C.).—You wait and we'll see.

F. I. (Lerwick).—Will try your patent toothache cure when we get toothache; meanwhile we are not conscious of its generating electricity without it. It is essentially a chemist's and druggist's article, and some large firm like Boots might take it up if you could demonstrate its efficacy to them. Or if you could raise capital to advertise it well you could supply it yourself direct.

R. F. A. (Kildare) says that he thinks the time is not far distant when the Army Council will be relegated to the dust heap, and all matters with reference to the rank and file will be dealt with by a Council formed from among themselves. Hear, hear! We strongly advise our correspondent, however, to keep his views secret until he leaves the Army, otherwise he will find himself tried by court-martial.

E. C. (Bedford) is another dissatisfied client of the British Clothing Club, as, after repeated requests for the return of her 2s. deposit, she received instead a 6½d. pocket-handkerchief. Oh, dry them tears!

"COMMON SENSE" (London).—If, you argue, Mr. Lloyd George insists on husbands handling the maternity benefits, then they ought to have the babies. But who is Mr. Lloyd George that you should suggest his interfering with the merciful decrees of Providence?

"ESKAY" (Glam.).—You are right. It is the ancient snowball system. Let it severely alone.

"ROBERT MAC HAIRPIN" (Cheltenham) informs us: "I am a Scot ye ken an a wee bittie pawky forbye." He has our sympathy.

"A 'JOHN BULL' SUPPORTER" (Wellingborough) wants to know whether the children of a marriage between first cousins are likely to be degenerate. They are. As all stock-breeders know, close in-breeding is asking for trouble.

R. G. (Shepherd's Bush).—It is useless to expect a better postal service whilst the country is governed on Party lines. It is doubly useless to take the legal action you contemplate against the P.M.G. In any case, we do not recommend firms of solicitors.

"EXASPERATED" (Southwark) complains of being constantly dogged by detectives, says he is getting exasperated, and concludes by asking, "Do I go abroad or get jugged for assault?" He is at liberty to please himself.

"UBIQUE" (Shoreham) asks whether any reader could give him the date when "drumming out" was abolished in the Army. He says he believes the last case happened in 1866. We are glad to hear it.

"TELEGRAPHIST" (Anstruther).—Seeing that you are a Post Office telegraphist you should know more about the cable companies than we do, and how to apply to them for a post.

"CONSTANT READER" (Blackpool).—We notice that the correspondents who are most suspicious of the *bona fides* of other people are the most given to writing us anonymously. If you are afraid to disclose your name and address, don't write at all.

E. L. S. (Sheffield).—Your anecdote recalls the story of the waiter who, reminded that his thumb was in the soup, replied "That's all right, sir; it isn't hot." Moreover, we think this version is the better of the two, being rather less disgusting than the incident of the dirty handkerchief.

(A large number of replies are held over.)

Are you collecting the Pen Coupons on page iii. of Cover?

Bull's Eyes.

Notes of Interrogation:—

Isn't the Cabinet getting "warped" in parts?
Are you looking for a paying game? See page 627.
Did the Suffragettes attack Dr. Forward behind?
When is the apology to the Mad Mullah to be sent?
Isn't the "Board" of Trade merely a rotten plank?
Are the railway companies trying to "do their *worst*"?
Is Hall Caine represented at the Advertising Exhibition?
Doesn't the land campaign hold out plenty of "promise"?
Hasn't Lloyd George had a shot at the pheasants before?
Hasn't Larkin "paled the daughter" more than the "sun"?
Shouldn't the Mint certainly work overtime with money so scarce?
Will the Chancellor differentiate between "game" and "games"?

* * *

Alternative Book Titles:—

"The Eyes of Alicia"; or, *The Squint.*
"The Vulgar Lover"; or, *Changed Hats.*
"The Road to Victory"; or, *The Olympic Fund.*
"The Watered Garden"; or, *Sprinkled Neighbours.*
"The Proof of the Pudding"; or, *Poor Little Mary!*
"Youth Will be Served"; or, *Hurry Up with that Scone and Butter, Miss!*

* * *

Fantastic Definitions:—

Sleep—the port where Energy coals.
A Farthing—the smallest copper in England.
A Bubble—a beauty that must not be touched.
Appetite—the inner man's application for work.
A Pin—understudy to the button and paper-fastener.
A Razor—the scythe that mows the stubble and the corn.
A Tea-pot—the magnet that attracts the venomed needles of scandal.
A Photograph—the camera's opinion of a countenance, sub-edited by the photographer.

* * *

Play Title Wellerisms:—

"The Ever Open Door," as the thief said when the policeman ran him in.
"The Marriage Market," as the pretty girl said as she entered the ball-room.
"Never Say Die," as the M.D. said when lecturing on the bedside manner.
"Oh! I Say!!" as the patient said when he felt the dentist's tug on the tender.
"Sealed Orders," as the doctor said when his patient hoped it would be a boy.
"Diplomacy," as the bridegroom said when he destroyed the other girls' letters.
"Milestones," as the faded beauty said as she looked over her past birthday presents.
"The Harbour Watch," as the pickpocket said as he made off with the tripper's ticker.
"The Real Thing," as the author of "The Ethics of Pain" said when he had the neuralgia.
"Years of Discretion," as the old bachelor said when he declined the widow's invitation.

* * *

The remark in a contemporary that autumn hats for women "are full of eccentricities," seems rather severe on the sex.

* * *

In Ohio, an apple-pie exploded and injured the cook. It must have been what Americans term a "bang-up" affair.

* * *

The militants are to show us "what the sex is made of" this winter. The summer costumes have given us a good idea.

* * *

In America, Mrs. Pankhurst is to receive large sums to speak. Here, the authorities would give any amount to "shut her up."

* * *

225,000 rats have been killed in Saffron Walden during the last two years. Mr. Soaker is seeking a house in Saffron Walden.

* * *

The record price of £8,500 has been paid for a cinema film. But the purchasers have at least "something to show" for their money.

* * *

A Windermere trout swallowed a perch, which choked it by erecting its spine. Even little fish are dangerous when they get their backs up.

* * *

It is stated that there is only one tobacco shop in Regent Street. That must be what the men who walk up and down there are in search of.

* * *

To avoid accidents, never start to drive a motor car without a tooter.

* * *

Women are taking up the Law in Norway. Here, the process is the reverse.

* * *

"Shunter as Mayor," we read. He should tickle up some of the old buffers.

* * *

Borrow won a race at Newmarket. Evidently it was "a bit in advance."

* * *

A 300-lb. fish hooked at Durban was a codfish. We could have guessed that.

* * *

"£200,000 for a Husband," a headline informs us. Evidently a very "dear" one.

* * *

Mr. Edmund Payne is writing his autobiography. Of course it will be full of Gaiety.

* * *

The man who wakes to find himself famous, has usually had a pretty long night of it.

* * *

"Sugar Strike," says a headline. Up to now it is uncertain who will get the cane.

* * *

The *Boomerang*, a Wyoming newspaper, has just expired. It ought to come back.

* * *

Those who keep their nose to the grindstone rarely have a smell for anything else.

* * *

The toper usually begins with a corkscrew, and at the finish everything resembles one.

* * *

Napoleon, it is said, could not handle a razor. But he could do the "lathering" all right.

* * *

Some of the new stockings have slits in the side, we read. So have some of the old ones.

* * *

"Football Association Matters," a column is headed. But some people think it doesn't.

* * *

"The Magic Fire" is the title of a new book. The critics will only throw cold water on it.

* * *

A new operetta is called "The Ideal Wife." Married women can rely on being taken to see that.

* * *

Londoners, says a writer, simply cannot settle down. Some of them, we know, cannot "settle up."

* * *

Bedford was rather an unfortunate selection for the Chancellor. For it suggests Bunyan—and tinkering.

* * *

Suffragettes have been bombarding a judge with apples. That's not the way to "treat" the Bench.

* * *

The advent of a skirt with a trouser pocket won't help the married man; the wife will still dip into his.

* * *

Some critics are shocked to find Shakespeare at the Empire. But he has been in Leicester Square for years.

* * *

A Colorado couple have thirteen children, whose weight averages 15 st. 12 lbs. What a family to "raise"!

* * *

"Can Animals Reckon?" asks a contemporary. Most of them seem to understand the multiplication table.

* * *

At Worcester, four houses were robbed during church hours. "Watch and prey" must be the thieves' motto.

* * *

A well-known dancer has tip-toed up and down the Monument. But her "feat" made a noise all the same.

* * *

The provision of clocks on the Crystal Palace trams will enable passengers to realise how slowly time can go.

* * *

A Leith Suffragette, ordered to pay £10, did so in coppers. She evidently thought the fine was not heavy enough.

* * *

"Mails by Aeroplane," reads a heading. The phrase "Drop me a line," will come to have a literal meaning after all.

* * *

George Robey has been beaten at golf by a woman. As the prehistoric man, he should have wielded the club to better advantage.

Three words win £1,000. See "Bullets," page 635.

£1,750 WON! ANOTHER £1,750 OFFERED THIS WEEK.

£1,750! ONCE AGAIN

FOR FOOTBALL FORECAST

Now is your opportunity to win a fortune by football skill. Our £1,750 prize has been won once. Another £1,750 is offered this week. In any event £650 must be won—including a special £50 for a "Mary Bull" mauve coupon.

£650 Must Be Won

With the entrance form on page 2 of cover, we now give a duplicate coupon. This is provided for the convenience of readers desirous of keeping a record of their efforts. It must not be sent in.

£500 FOR NEAREST FORECAST SHORT OF FULL NUMBER.

£100 FOR NEXT HIGHEST CORRECT.

£50 FOR A MAUVE COUPON.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO

is to forecast the results of the League Games to be played on **Saturday, November 8,** given on the Entrance Form on page 2 of our cover. Draw your pen plainly through the name of the team you think will lose. If you predict a draw, do not cross out either team.

£1,750 will be paid to the Competitor sending us an Entrance Form containing correct forecasts of all the matches given, played to a finish, even if THE NUMBER BE ONLY 8 OR 10.

Abandoned Matches make No Difference.

In the event of no Entrance Form being received giving the whole of the correct results

£500 IN CASH

will be paid to the competitor giving most correct forecasts short of the full number, and we shall also pay a second contingent prize of **£100** to the Competitor sending the next highest number of correct forecasts. In addition **£50 in cash** will be paid to the lady sending in most correct forecasts on a *mauve* coupon taken from *Mary Bull*. Should it happen that the first prize of £1,750 be not won, we shall, in any event, still award the £500 and the £100 contingent prizes, as well as the £50 *Mary Bull* mauve coupon prize. Thus

£650 MUST BE WON.

The competition is one of pure skill, and competitors should make a point of studying the football columns of the daily papers.

We now give with the entrance form on page 2 of cover a duplicate coupon. This is provided solely for the convenience of competitors desirous of keeping a record of their efforts. It must on no account be sent in, and will not be accepted as proof of forecasts made on the Entrance Form.

Our system of checking the Entrance Forms of competitors is as perfect as human ingenuity can make it. Fraud is rendered absolutely impossible, whilst all risk of a coupon being overlooked is, by our elaborate arrangements, totally eliminated.

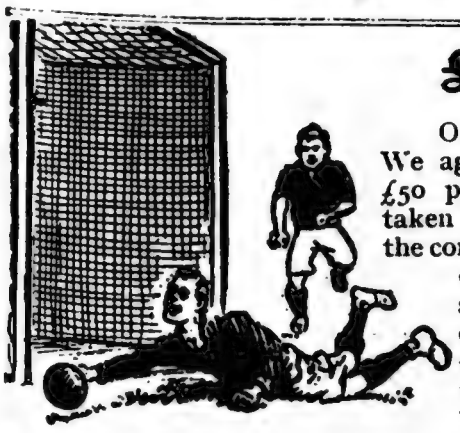
The RULES and

COUPON

will be found

on

PAGE 2 of COVER.



£50 FOR A "MAUVE" COUPON.

Our lady readers are specially invited to enter this new contest. We again offer them the advantage of a special and additional £50 prize for the most correct forecasts sent on a mauve coupon taken from *Mary Bull*. A mauve coupon signed by a lady means the competitor has the opportunity of winning not only the £1,750 or the £500 and £100, but also an extra £50. Should the sender of a mauve coupon win or share the £1,750 or the £500 or £100—the £50 prize will be awarded to the sender of the *next* most correct mauve coupon. Already this season lady readers have won Football prizes to the value of over £350. The second mauve coupon appears in this week's *Mary Bull*, on sale Friday, October 24th.

£2,350 FOR FOOTBALL ALREADY PAID BY US THIS SEASON.

After you have filled up your entries for this competition, turn to page 634 where you will find particulars of "Bullets," a simple and attractive Competition which you should not fail to enter. A first prize of £500 in cash is offered this week, in addition to more than 5,000 cash and other valuable prizes.

THE "JOHN BULL" FOOTBALL CUP SWEEPSTAKE.

We must refer all readers who have written for particulars of this Sweepstake to Messrs. SMALLMAN & TERRY, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND.

SWISS SPORTING SWEEPSTAKES.

THE EDITOR'S RECENT TOUR.

As already announced, the Editor of this journal, when visiting Lucerne for the purpose of attending Mr. Patrick O'Brien's Cambridgeshire Draw, took advantage of the opportunity to enquire on the spot, at both Lucerne and Geneva, into the working of the various "sweeps" upon sporting events now being promoted and worked from these centres. And the result of his investigation has been to confirm the view already expressed in these columns that those who desire to participate in these exhilarating, and frequently profitable, forms of speculation will do well to confine their subscriptions to the sweepstakes run by the following firms:—Messrs. Smallman and Terry, of Geneva; and Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Mr. H. Diamond and Mr. Cullerne-Bown (the Lucerne Totalisator), of Lucerne. It may, of course, be that there are other firms, conducting their businesses on straight lines, but their enterprises are on a relatively small scale, and are mostly of a spasmodic character. Each of the firms we have mentioned, on the other hand, is strongly and permanently established in the country, with extensive offices and staffs, and is, furthermore, possessed of ample financial resources to ensure the faithful fulfilment of its obligations.

Messrs. Smallman and Terry have an enormous following in the football world—each of them conducting an independent Football Competition business, and the two combining their resources for the purpose of an occasional sporting sweepstake. Thus they are at present busily engaged, apart from their individual businesses, in the management of the John Bull Football Cup Sweep, which looks like being as successful as the recent John Bull Derby Sweep. We need scarcely say that we should not have permitted the name of this journal to be associated with the undertaking unless we were thoroughly satisfied as to the integrity and standing of the firm; and it is no small tribute to the magnitude of its *clientèle* that it has actually guaranteed prizes to the extent of over £15,000, with an additional £1,500 for British Charities—of which our own Human Document Fund is to benefit to the extent of £500, as in the case of the Derby Sweep. We are not at liberty, in the present state of the law, to give details of the project, and readers must write direct to Messrs. Smallman and Terry, Geneva, Switzerland.

Mr. Patrick O'Brien is the gentleman who conducted the John Bull Derby Sweep. He has now removed his offices to Lucerne, where he is running a series of sporting "sweeps," guaranteeing substantial prizes. His offices are situated in the heart of the city, and, as in the case of the other firms, have more the appearance of a banking institution than of a sporting bureau. Every member of the senior staff is specially selected from the point of view of character and education, and the system of dealing with the coupons is such as to render anything in the nature of fraud an impossibility. The Cambridgeshire Sweep has just been completed and, as will be gathered from the announcement on another page, all the drawn numbers are already made public. We understand that the next "sweep" will be upon the Grand National, but here, again, we must refer our readers direct to Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. Diamond conducts a regular series of popular "sweeps," with low-priced tickets, and has had such a busy season that after the draw for his Manchester November Handicap "Sweep" he will take a few months' much needed rest. A systematic attack has been made upon him in certain quarters, but we are content to repeat what we have so often stated, *i.e.*, that we *know* his sweepstake business to be absolutely *bona fide*.

The Lucerne Totalisator, under the direction of Mr. Cullerne-Bown, is sufficiently well established in public confidence to require no special commendation from us. It has become a recognised institution; and its last "Sweep" of the season will be on the Manchester Handicap.

ANOTHER £10 PAID.

The special copy of John Bull, numbered 816442 and dated October 11, for which we advertised last week, has been forwarded by Mr. Martin J. Moran, of 75, Upton Street, Longsight, Manchester, to whom a cheque for £10 has accordingly been sent.

HOW A FORTUNE IS MADE

MAGNIFICENT REWARD FOR THRIFT.

£13 INVESTED IN GILT-EDGED SECURITY YIELDS £3,952.

We court the fullest enquiry into the conditions under which Mr. H. Bowker, of Northampton, England, whose letter appears below, invested his money through us, in a gilt-edged security, realizing thereby the sum of over £3,952 for an outlay of only £13.

READ THIS LETTER.

From Henry Bowker, Fashionable Tailor, 33, Abingdon Square, Northampton.

The Comptoir General des Valeurs, Brussels.

DEAR SIRS,—*I hereby wish to tender you my heartiest thanks for the wise and clever selection of bonds which you purchased for me and which, besides yielding 3 per cent. interest per annum, one of them brought me a prize of 100,000 francs (£3,952 11s. 4d.).*

Yours faithfully,

HENRY BOWKER.

By similar safe investments effected through us, a great number of our clients secure each year most substantial prizes. What exceptional facilities we offer for the acquisition of these gilt-edged securities is told at length in our Booklet. "Ideal Investments," sent post free for a postcard. There is no liability incurred by writing us; you are invited to judge of our business for yourself and accept or reject the offer we make.

Address TO-DAY,

COMPTOIR GÉNÉRAL DES VALEURS,

Bankers

(Dept. J.B.,) 285, RUE DU PROGRES, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM.

Postage, letters 2½d. Postcards 1d.

HOW TO GET RID OF CATARRH.

A Simple, Safe, Reliable Way, and It Costs Nothing to Try.

Those who suffer from catarrh know its miseries. There is no need of this suffering. You can get rid of it by a simple, safe, inexpensive, home treatment discovered by Dr. Blosser, who, for over thirty-six years, has been treating catarrh successfully.

His treatment is unlike any other. It is not a spray, douche, salve, cream, or inhaler, but is a more direct and thorough treatment than any of these. It cleans out the head, nose, throat and lungs so that you can again breathe freely and sleep without that stopped-up feeling that all catarrh sufferers have. It heals the diseased mucous membranes and arrests the foul discharge, so that you will not be constantly blowing your nose and spitting, and at the same time it does not poison the system and ruin the stomach, as internal medicines do.

If you want to test this treatment without cost, send your address to Dr. Blosser, Ltd., (Depot 21B.), 8, Bouverie Street, London, E.C., who will send you by return post enough of the medicine to satisfy you that it is all they claim for it as a remedy for catarrh, catarrhal headaches, catarrhal deafness, asthma, bronchitis, colds and all catarrhal complications. They will also send you free an illustrated booklet. Write them immediately.

On sale at Boots' and other chemists' shops.

TO CURE CATARRHAL DEAFNESS AND HEAD NOISES.

Persons suffering from catarrhal deafness and head noises will be glad to know that this distressing affliction can be successfully treated at home by an internal medicine that in many instances has effected a complete cure after all else has failed. Sufferers who could scarcely hear a watch tick have had their hearing restored to such an extent that the tick of a watch was plainly audible seven or eight inches away from either ear.

Therefore, if you know someone who is troubled with head noises or catarrh, or catarrhal deafness, cut out this formula and hand to them, and you will have been the means of saving some poor sufferer perhaps from total deafness. The prescription can be prepared at home and is made as follows:—

Secure from your chemist 1 oz. Parmint (Double Strength), about 2s. 6d. worth. Take this home and add to it ¼ pint of hot water and 4 ozs. of moist or granulated sugar; stir until dissolved. Take one tablespoonful four times a day.

The first dose promptly ends the most distressing head noises, dullness, cloudy thinking, &c., while the hearing rapidly returns as the system is invigorated by the tonic action of the treatment. Loss of smell and mucus dropping in the back of the throat are other symptoms that show the presence of catarrhal poison, and which are quickly overcome by this efficacious treatment. Nearly 90 per cent. of all ear troubles are directly caused by catarrh; therefore, there are but few people whose hearing cannot be restored by this simple home treatment. Every person who is troubled with head noises, catarrhal deafness, or catarrh in any form should give this prescription a trial. There is nothing better.

IMPORTANT.—In ordering Parmint always specify that you want double strength. Your chemist has it, or he can easily get it for you; if not, write to the International Laboratories, Carlton House, Great Queen Street, London, W.C., who make a speciality of it.

"I'd no idea you were in Town"

—"Yes, I came up to the 'Midland' for some new furniture. They paid my fare to London.

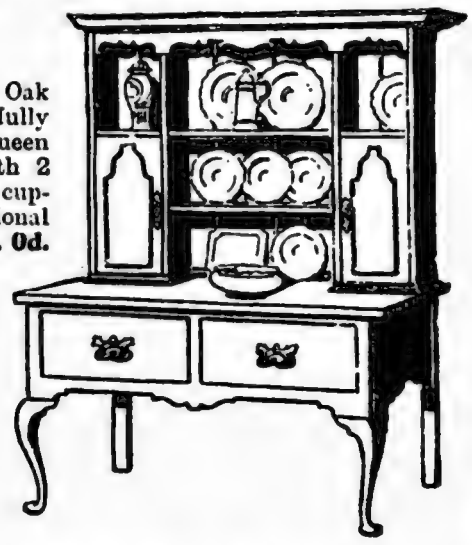
You know how difficult it is to find just what you want in a country place. And I always like to get really good furniture while I'm about it. So I went to the 'Midland'—London's Leading Furnishers—where you've the choice of £100,000 worth of beautiful furniture on Ideal Terms. I got everything I wanted, and, between ourselves, the cheque I drew for it was far smaller than I should have paid for furniture of anything like the same quality elsewhere. For

Money buys more at the 'Midland.'"

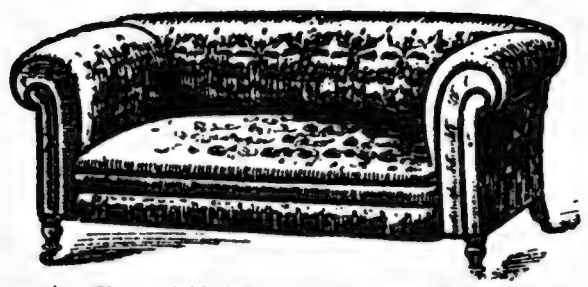
The enormous business transacted by the "Midland," and the intermediate profits they save as the actual manufacturers, enable them to give you value unapproachable elsewhere. They charge nothing for credit—no deposit, no interest—nothing for packing or delivery—nothing beyond the competitive cash prices plainly marked on all the goods. There are no "extras" whatsoever about a purchase at the "Midland"—except the extra value you get. Customers' fares to London paid on all orders of £20 and upwards.

A Fascinating Book of Fine Furniture FREE.

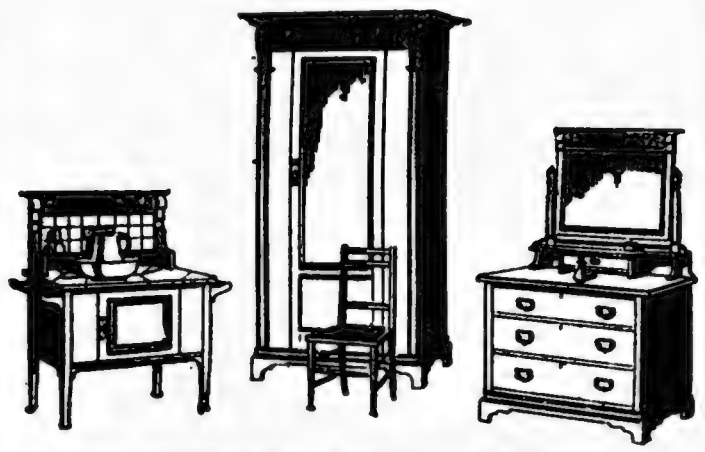
If you cannot call send a postcard with your full name and address. We will send you by return our Book of Fine Furniture, richly illustrated with over 1,000 photographs.



A most artistic Oak Dresser, beautifully designed on Queen Anne lines, with 2 drawers and 2 cupboards. Exceptional value. **£5 15s. 0d.**



Large size Chesterfield, beautifully upholstered and covered in Tapestry to customer's choice. With or without drop end. **£4 14s. 6d.**



Well-made Bedroom Suite in Oak, comprising Wardrobe, Dressing table, Washstand and two chairs. Beautifully finished in rich antique brown, a real bargain. **£11 17s. 6d.**

Ideal Terms.

Under our Ideal Payment System you pay only the Competitive Cash Prices plainly marked on the goods. No deposit is asked, no interest required, and no extra charge whatever is made. And, should the purchaser die, **the furniture becomes the absolute property of the wife**—without any further payment. All furniture purchased on our Ideal Terms is **insured against fire.**

Midland

Furnishing Company, Ltd.,

Contractors to H.M. Crown Agents for the Colonies,

15 to 23, Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C.

Seven doors from Holborn and Holborn Tube Station.
1 minute from British Museum Tube Station.

Hours—9 till 8. **Saturdays—9 till 1.**

Instalment Table.

Worth.		Per Month.
£10	...	£0 6 0
£20	...	0 11 0
£30	...	0 17 0
£40	...	1 5 0
£50	...	1 8 0
£100	...	2 5 0
£200	...	4 10 0
£500	...	11 5 0

Larger amounts pro rata.

We give 10% Additional Discount for Cash.

CITY NOTES.

[*For Financial and Insurance Letter Box, see page 632.*]

The Stock Markets.

After another week of depression and extreme pessimism, the Stock Markets are beginning to take a turn for the better, and it would appear almost as if the liquidation had practically finished. This must depend, of course, upon whether the Canadian financiers have sufficiently safeguarded their position, especially in Mexican Securities. Brazil has taken a lesson, and is instituting rigid economies, which should gradually strengthen her financial position. The outstanding feature of the week has been the collapse in Canadian Pacifics, which to some extent was aggravated by the weakness of Yankees. The latter at one time looked as if they were in for another bad break, and forced support was necessary on the part of Wall Street to prevent demoralisation. A reassuring development is the investment demand for the new Loan scrips, some of which indeed have experienced a very substantial recovery, but this has only happened after the underwriters were landed with the bulk of the stocks and undertook not to do any more underwriting of Canadian Loans. One consequence is that some of the Canadian provinces are resorting to short term issues in Lombard Street, but Canadian interests have had a very severe lesson, which we hope will not be thrown away. We mentioned some weeks ago that an important land scheme in connection with Rhodesia was on the tapis. Matters are now proceeding more rapidly, and it will evidently only be a question of a few weeks before the scheme in question is launched, in connection with which Sir Starr Jameson and Mr. Wilson Fox left last week for Rhodesia. Kaffirs have been in a dead-alive condition, chiefly because Paris has its own special troubles at present, which have prevented any improvement in diamond shares, while French operators have also been upset by strike troubles on the Rio Tinto Mines. The latter, of course, are a bull point for other Copper properties, and the last European statistics show a further reduction in the visible supply. Matters in the Rubber market are shaping towards the adoption of the principle of Inscription sales, but Mr. Lampard seems to have selected a very inopportune moment for launching his new issue for the Rubber Share Trust. This is proved by the fact that the shares have fallen heavily to par, and look none too strong at that. Considering that there has been drastic reduction in the dividends of late, it is not surprising that the Rubber share market wears such a dejected aspect. Oil shares have been amongst the few firm sections of the market, and it is a sign of the times that the Mexican Eagle is shipping oil to South Russia for the purpose of taking advantage of the high prices ruling there. At all events, Oil shares are the market of the future.

John Bull Bank.

Confirming the views we have already expressed as to the utility of this Institution, the following extract from a letter written by a partner in a manufacturing firm, which had promptly obtained financial accommodation, will be of interest to our readers :—

> "Had it not been for Mr. Tanqueray Todd treating us in such a generous manner we could not have continued. One thing, we had a genuine business, but insufficient capital, and any similarly placed, if they will be frank and straight, will, I feel sure, find the John Bull Bank treat them with every consideration."

"Under-and-Over"-Ground Training.

The game of bringing the traffic of London under one combine proceeds merrily. It will be remembered that we pointed out the disadvantages which attached to the arrangement entered into earlier in the year between the New Central and the London General Omnibus Companies The nine months since elapsed have fully justified us. The New Central announces that they are at loggerheads with the London General, and that, in order to settle the dispute, they have sold their entire assets since, together with the agreement, to the Underground Electric Railway Co., of London, Ltd., on terms which are immaterial to the point we desire to emphasise once more, namely, that, slowly but surely, the entire over and underground passenger traffic of London threatens to be controlled by one Trust and that this will not benefit those making use of local tubes and 'buses. Unless, of course, British Trusts are to be run on different lines than Yankee ones, which we do not suppose will be the case.

Slippery "Shells."

Following our last week's note on Shells, it is of particular interest at the moment to give further details of the Red Sea Oilfields deal. As already mentioned, the Shell group had an option to purchase the property, which it kept open till the last moment and then dropped. Subsequently the Anglo-Egyptian Oilfields (a subsidiary of the Shell) purchased the property for 450,000 B shares, which are being held in trust until the commercial stage is reached. Red Sea Oils are, therefore, still in existence and were recently quoted about 7s. 6d. At the meeting of the Shell company the chairman stated that "amongst so many successes we must be prepared for some failures. In this connection we regret that our drilling in Egypt has so far been disappointing." Within a few days of this statement being made there was such active buying of Red Seas that the price rose from 7s. 6d. to 12s. 6d., and most of the dealings came from brokers usually identified with Shell interests. Of course, they may not have been acting on this occasion for the Shell group, but, knowing the methods of these people, market dealers are very aggrieved about the whole thing.

More Canada.

The offer of 6 per cent. debenture stock at a discount in the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Co., Ltd., by some person or persons unknown strikes us as possessing many undesirable features. In the particulars before us we observe that the Royal Bank of Canada is authorised to receive subscriptions, but beyond this, of course, it accepts no responsibility. There is the usual letter from the President which, for all we know, may be correct in every detail, but what we desire to point out is that should such not be the case purchasers of the stock would have no redress against this gentleman. The only individuals who might be responsible are the anonymous vendors, and it would perhaps be a matter of great difficulty to locate them.

Nitrogen Products and Carbide Company.

Our readers will remember that some four or five months ago we criticised the prospectus of this undertaking, which then made its appearance preceded by an elaborate and extensive preliminary advertising campaign. It was, perhaps, the latter which, to some extent, prejudiced us against the enterprise, bearing as it did so great a resemblance to the notorious Synthetic Rubber promotion a few weeks previously. We never disguised from ourselves, however, the fact that the scheme was possessed of great potentialities if conducted on sound business lines, and, judging by the reports which reach us, as the result of a recent visit of pressmen to the Company's new Works at Odda in Norway, the undertaking is apparently going to justify its existence. We do not pretend to be in a position to deal from a technical point of view with the subject of the production of Nitrogen compounds, and are content with a survey of the progress which the Company has made towards the fulfilment of the promises held out in the prospectus. Briefly, the scheme was to compete on a commercial scale with the production of Chili and Peru, the only known natural nitrate fields in the world, which, however, are being steadily worked out. Obviously, if it could be shown that such a thing were possible, there was no limit to the field open to the Company, provided, of course, that it was equipped with the necessary working capital, which for such an undertaking, must be on an extensive scale. From what we have learned from special enquiries, we gather that, with strong financial backing, this has been secured, with the result that very considerable progress would appear to have been made. The Company, has, apparently, up to the present, concentrated its energies upon the extension of its cyanamide works at Odda, which place is now developing at a remarkable rate. It has grown in a few years from a little village to a busy town of over three thousand inhabitants, half of whom are employed in the Company's works. Not the least important result of the success of the Company would seem to be the production of a cheap and ample supply of nitrogen fertilisers, which may very possibly go further to solve the much discussed problem of agricultural depression than all Mr. Lloyd George's schemes of Land Reform, whilst the paramount necessity of establishing adequate supplies of explosives for war purposes within Great Britain must be apparent. It is in the latter connection that we note with interest that it is intended to establish factories for the manufacture of nitric acid at the mouth of the Thames, in Manchester, in Scotland and even in Ireland. If these projects are carried to a successful issue, the scheme must enlist ample Government support, in which event the company may well look forward to a successful career.

Your Football Skill may win you £1,750. See page 627.

WANTED !!!

All "JOHN BULL"-ITES to join the "'TERRY'-TORIAL" Ranks and shoot in the "FOOTBALL WORLD" Contests.

£350 MUST BE WON WEEKLY.

£250 FOR "BULLS' EYES"

(10 CORRECT RESULTS OR NEXT BEST).

£100 AS SECOND AWARD.

Prizes this season have been awarded as follows:—

Sept. 1st Competition (no tens predicted) 14 nines gained **£17 17s. 1d.**
197 eights gained **10s. 1d.**

Sept. 6th Competition (no tens predicted) 38 nines gained **£6 11s. 6d.**
303 eights gained **6s. 7d.**

(The above results—no tens for two successive contests—constitute a record for Continental Competitions.

Sept. 13th Competition 2 tens gained **£125 0s. 0d.**
115 nines gained **17s. 4d.**

Sept. 20th Competition 5 tens gained **£50 0s. 0d.**
112 nines gained **17s. 10d.**

For full particulars of those interesting and profitable skill competitions, address:—

H. T. TERRY,

"Football World," Geneva, Switzerland.

WEEKLY

FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS.

£200

for Predicting TEN MATCHES correctly, or nearest,

with an additional £100 for Next Best.

The most simple and easiest contest in existence: 15 chances allowed for 6d.; 30 for 1/-; 45 for 1/6; 60 for 2-.

GRAND SPECIAL £500 CONTEST (monthly)

Send for Particulars.

A. F. SMALLMAN, Geneva, SWITZERLAND.

Postcards, 1d. Letters, 2½d.

H. HAMILTON & CO.,

BINNINGEN, SWITZERLAND.

The Oldest Established Football Accountants in the World.

Send a post card (postage 1d.) for the most liberal price list issued. But no need to wait for coupons, write your commissions on plain paper.

Our "Football Annual," containing several new features, will be sent free on mentioning this paper.

JOE GOFF, BINNINGEN, SWITZERLAND.

The Acknowledged King of Football Agents.

£25,000 paid to Winning Clients last Season.

MOST LIBERAL ODDS. SEND POSTCARD, 1d.

£100 FREE. £100 FREE. £100 FREE

HARRY APPLETON

Makes daily settlements for Racing.

2, Gayfield Place, Edinburgh, and Lucerne.

"Gale's Special"

The "SPECIAL" that Guarantees Your Success.

"Fewer Selections and more Winners than any of its rivals." *Vide The Sportsman.*

PROOF! PROOF! PROOF!

During the three months of July, August, and September "GALE'S SPECIAL" has given no less than

115 WINNERS,

which have included **GREENCAP** (8 pts.); **CATMINT** (12½ pts.); **SHOLEBROKE** (5 pts.); **BUCKSTEAD** (7 pts.); **DIADUMENOS** (10 pts.); **PICTORIAL** (7 pts.); **FARAKABAD** (10 pts.); **POTENCY** (10 pts); **APPRENTICE** (5 pts.; **HIMALAYA** (11 pts.); **POULETTE** (6 pts.); and **PARVUS** (10 pts.), our latest Principal Event success being

DALMATIAN (6 pts.)

for the Windsor October Handicap, on Thursday, October 9th.

Next Monday's issue of "GALE'S SPECIAL," published at 2/6 will be sent post free in plain sealed envelope upon receipt of 1/- P.O. or Stamps to all readers of "JOHN BULL" enclosing this paragraph.

Sportsmen requiring unequalled and sterling intelligence should subscribe for . .

Gale's Primus Wire

The Most Successful Service Ever Inaugurated.

On Tuesday, October 7th, from the Nottingham Meeting our Primus Wire selection was:

MOUNTAIN FAIRY, 3 to 1 agst., Won,

whilst on Saturday, October 11th, we scored another triumph with

LANCELOT, 10 to 1 agst., Won.

Nothing else whatever mentioned.

Previous Wire Triumphs have been:

SVETEC (6 pts.); **MEDIATOR** (4½ pts.); **GREAT SURPRISE** (5 pts.); **AMADOR** (6 pts.); **DALLINGTON** (8 pts.); **RIVOLI** (14 pts.); **SOLPRUFE** (8 pts.); **CASSIM** (12½ pts.); **SANTAIR** (4 pts.); **BUCKSTEAD** (7 pts.); **SHOLEBROKE** (5 pts.); **DIADUMENOS** (10 pts.); **HORNET'S BEAUTY** (4 pts.); **HALIFAX** (7 pts.); **DORMANT** (4½ pts.); etc.

Another Big Winner at NEWMARKET.

The charge for this Special "Gale's" Primus Wire is TWENTY FIVE POUNDS PER MESSAGE. It amounts to this, ONE SELECTION ONLY—THE BEST SELECTION THAT MONEY, BRAINS, AND INFLUENCE CAN PROCURE.

As a Special Offer to "JOHN BULL" readers we will send the next Special Primus Wire from Newmarket on Tuesday, October 28th upon receipt of £10, instead of the usual charge of £25,

and unless the selection sent out is successful, and at reasonable odds, we guarantee to send you one of our famous Tattersall's Ring Wires entirely free of charge. On the other hand, should the selection win at the odds of not less than 8 to 1 against, subscribers will, of course, forward the balance of £15.

Note that our ONLY address is:—

"Gale's Special,"

Ruskin Buildings, Birmingham

Telegraphic Address: "WINNERS, Birmingham."

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE LETTER-BOX.

Letters containing enquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, John Bull, 52, New Broad Street, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

John Bull Bank.—Manufacturer.—You should place your position before the Manager, and if the facts be as stated, you should have little difficulty in obtaining the accommodation you require.—S. T. G. (Chiswick).—The Transferable Deposit Notes, which carry interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, should provide just the medium for investment you require.

Income and Investment Corporation.—D. R. J. (Bridgend, Glam.) and A. J. S. (Bath).—We certainly do not recommend you to deposit any capital in the concern, to which we have frequently referred in this column.

Farrow's Bank.—Rob Roy.—Quite sound.

Panama Bonds.—A Pakeha Maori.—We are unable to advise as to the genuineness without fuller particulars, and suggest you should forward the Bonds to Messrs. Cunliffe, Russell and Co., 10, rue du 4 Septembre, La Bourse, Paris, who, we are sure, will give you any information you require.

4 to 4½ per Cent. Investments.—Careful (Belfast).—(1) Hold Midland Preferred, which is a good investment. (2) The same applies to Midland G. W. Debs. (3) Linen Thread Preference shares are a fair Industrial holding, although there is some slackening in trade. (4) Vickers Ordinary and Preference shares are good of their class, but of course they are not gilt-edged.

Petrol Users' Traders.—W. C. D. (Durham).—There is no market in these shares, and we do not recommend a purchase.

Indian River Gold Mining.—Yukon.—We cannot find any quotation for these shares, and we do not recommend a purchase, unless indeed you can get reliable information as to the Company's position and prospects.

Outside Brokers.—W. T. R. (Pembrey).—As far as we are aware, the firm specially mentioned are respectable, but, obviously, we cannot accept any responsibility in the matter.

Sandow's Cocoa.—Nemo (Ebbw Vale).—Upon the whole, we think there cannot be much risk in holding on now, in the hope of the Company's fortunes taking a turn for the better.

Motor Petrol Association.—D. G. (Peterborough).—The Companies are not identical. There is very little information available with regard to this concern, and it is not one in which we should recommend an investment.

Canadian Land Companies.—One of Many.—Your experience has been that of many others, and we, at any rate, have done our best to warn investors against these dubious concerns. Whether, having paid your money, you can recover it now is doubtful, as, having gone into the undertaking with your eyes open, you now have no option but to fulfil your bargain.

Volta River Coconut and Produce.—B. B. (Dorset).—Our opinion of the Company is the reverse of favourable, and the shareholders should combine with the object of placing the concern under proper management.

La Fiesta and Kanaka Mining Co.'s.—J. S. M. (New Brighton).—Very little information is available as regards both these companies, and we do not recommend a purchase of their shares, for which there is no regular market.

Cinema Investment.—J. W. (Sheffield).—This kind of investment is being rigorously boycotted on the Stock Exchange, and your best plan would be to advertise your requirements in the daily press, and make your selection from the replies you receive. We, however, consider that the whole cinema business is being overdone.

Foreign Railways.—Miss C. (Fulham).—Central Argentine Preference is the best stock of the lot, but the shares are also promising, and Cuban Central Prefs. are a fair holding, although not gilt-edged. If you can get the stocks at a reasonable price, there is no reason why you should not invest in them. Present market quotations are as follows:—Cuban Central Preference, 9⅜ to 10¼; Central Argentine 4½ per cent. Preference, 100 to 101; while ditto Ordinary stock is quoted at 103½ to 104½, into which the shares in question will ultimately be consolidated.

Britannic Picture Palaces.—A. V. (Brixton).—We certainly do not advise an investment in the shares on the strength of the flamboyant circular you send us. You will find that it is much easier to buy than to sell them.

Maikop Victory.—Victory.—This is one of the leading Maikop Oil Companies, and its output has been improving steadily of late. The shares are quoted at only about 5s., in consequence of the general fall in Maikop oil shares, but at this price they possess considerable possibilities. Ultimately everything must depend upon the result of the deep-boring operations now in progress on the Maikop oilfield.

Walthamstow Cinema.—W. H. L. (West Ham).—By the allotment of shares the Company has actually come into being, and you are liable for the shares applied for and allotted to you, unless you can prove misrepresentation in the first instance. It is very doubtful whether the directors were justified in going to allotment on an insufficient subscription.

Provident Association of London.—Verax.—It is always an advantage to make repayments off the principal sum borrowed, as a saving of interest is thereby secured. We regard the granting of loans under their "Bond system" as expensive and inequitable, the Bond subscription payments not being applied in reduction of the advances made until the Bond matures.

National Health Insurance.—P. S. (Carlisle).—We are obliged for your interesting letter. We observe that a doctor can prescribe any article, whether it is on the tariff list or not. This list is supplied to all doctors and chemists, and if the article prescribed is not on the list, all the doctor has to do is to cross out the word "ordinary" in the prescription. Patent medicines, the composition of which is unknown, cannot be ordered, and all kinds of foods, not being drugs, are prohibited. This information should be interesting to those readers who have written us on the subject.

Insurance Policy.—A Woman in Grey.—If the policy is in the name of your brother's wife as the proposer she would be legally entitled to draw the insurance money on the death of the assured. We can only express the hope that your sister-in-law will adopt a more humane attitude towards her aged relative in future.

Independent Order of Oddfellows; Loyal "Sir John de Graeme" Lodge.—R. F. (Glasgow).—Your father joined at the age of eighteen and has regularly continued his weekly subscription. The rules in force at that time entitled him to certain benefits. These benefits have since been reduced, and instead of receiving the 5s. per week he expected, he is now being paid at the rate of 4s. We should be inclined to question the power of the Society to reduce the benefits of the "old members" by bringing them under the new rules. If the Society should insist upon upholding its ruling, you may act under Rule 38 appertaining to the "settlement of disputes."

Fleetwood Mutual Self-Help Money Society.—R. G. (Manchester).—The accounts for the past year are long overdue. Apply again for a copy. There is no provision in the Rules for the withdrawal of subscriptions, but under Rule XI. you may transfer your share to any person approved by the Committee. As regards the loan you have applied for, you are in the hands of the Committee. They have disapproved of your sureties, and this they are entitled to do under Rule X. Our perusal of the constitution of this moneylending concern has not favourably impressed us, and working men would be well advised to avoid investing their savings in societies of this description.

National Commercial Insurance Co.—Beta.—We fear you have been duped. You purchased a policy for £16, and about a month thereafter you were informed that the Company had gone into liquidation. Instruct a solicitor to demand the return of the money from the person who sold you the policy.

London and Provincial Assurance Co.—A. L. (Kensington).—You were a holder of a Certificate under the "Provincial Homes," and subsequently transferred to the Life Assurance Branch. On applying for a Surrender Value, you are offered £19 for £78 paid in. A mistake must surely have occurred. Write them again. The Company is honouring its engagements, but its financial position is not over-robust, and, as we have previously pointed out, its capital resources require to be strengthened.

Pearl Life Assurance Co.—Y. S. D. G.—If your mother is unable to establish a legal title to the policies, as would appear to be the case, we think the premiums could be recovered on the ground that the contract gives her no consideration for the moneys she has paid.

Wesleyan and General Assurance Society.—J. H. D. (Swansea Valley).—A sister may effect a policy on the life of her brother, provided the object is to cover expenses in connection with his death or funeral. It seems extraordinary that the superintendent should have informed you that the policies are "void," and you must not rest satisfied until you have received a written explanation from the Head Office. You say they have referred you to the superintendent, who has failed to give you satisfaction. Write the Head Office again and press for a direct answer to your questions.

First Dutch Insurance Co.—J. T. E. (Glam.).—The London office was closed some time ago, and it is not satisfactory to holders of their policies in this country that all enquiries have to be addressed to the Hague. This objection would be somewhat minimised if replies to enquiries received prompt attention, but apparently this obvious duty is neglected. According to the prospectus, a Surrender Value of 75 per cent. can only be obtained in five years from the date a policy is paid up. Under Article 12, notice to end the insurance is the exclusive right of the Company, but such withdrawal, if allowed, does not operate until twelve months from date of notice. Policies are transferable, and if the Company are not prepared to terminate the insurance, you had better ascertain if they will find you a purchaser for the policy.

INVEST YOUR SAVINGS IN
THE
JOHN BULL BANK
Transferable Deposit Notes
Carrying Interest at Five per cent. per annum.
As good as a Bank Note—with the addition of Substantial Interest.
For particulars, apply to:—
The Manager,
JOHN BULL BANK,
Old Jewry, London, E.C.

Wanted, a "Mauve" Coupon. £50 Special Prize. See page 627.

A. H. WESTWOOD,

39, YORK PLACE, EDINBURGH. (CONTINENTAL BRANCH, **OLTEN, SWITZERLAND.**)

RACING.

NO LIMIT, WIN or PLACE.
FREE POSTAGE Stamped Addressed Envelopes supplied Free to all clients.
FREE TELEGRAMS Cost of Losing Wires Allowed.
DAILY ACCOUNTS Winnings Dispatched Immediately Results are known.
WINNINGS TELEGRAPHED Clients may have their winnings telegraphed at my expense.

Commissions accepted from 1/- up to any amount.

"Any to come" bets, investments on favourites, newspaper selections, jockey's mounts, etc., etc., all accepted.

Send for a copy of the "LITTLE BLUE BOOK"

And it will be forwarded to you, post free.

FUTURE EVENTS.

Books open on the Cambridgeshire, Derby Gold Cup and Manchester November Handicaps.
Paper prices guaranteed.

FOOTBALL.

FIXED ODDS and TOTALISATOR
BEST PRICES PAID and YOUR WINNINGS GUARANTEED.
FREE POSTAGE and £50 FREE.
COMPETITION WEEKLY.

TOTALISATOR, Pick where you like in the First, Second Division, and Southern English Leagues, and First Division Scottish League. No match barred.

The following are a few of the prices returned, against some of the popular combinations this season.

			Sept. 6th	13th.	20th.
1	Draw	..	.. 3 to 1 ..	3 to 1	.. 5 to 2
1	home, 1	draw	.. 5 ,, 1 ..	8 ,, 1	.. 8 ,, 1
2	,, 1	,,	.. 6 ,, 1 ..	17 ,, 1	..21 ,, 1
3	,,	..	.. 6 ,, 4 ..	3 ,, 1	.. 2 ,, 1
4	,,	..	.. 5 ,, 2 ..	5 ,, 1	.. 8 ,, 1
5	,,	..	.. 4 ,, 1 ..	8 ,, 1	..13 ,, 1
6	,,	..	.. 7 ,, 1 ..	14 ,, 1	..22 ,, 1
1	,, 1	away	.. 3 ,, 1 ..	9 ,, 2	.. 5 .. 2
2	,, 1	,,	.. 4 ,, 1 ..	4 ,, 1	.. 3 ,, 1
1	,, 3	,,	..12 ,, 1 ..	15 ,, 1	.. 4 ,, 1

SYSTEMS.

Systematic speculators specially catered for, any practicable working undertaken, and no commission charged. A client, writing on Sept. 24th says:—

"For the seventh week in succession (the whole time you have been working my system) every step has been most carefully worked out. This is the same system which was worked by another bookmaker who advertises largely that he makes a big point of systems. I say 'worked.' Scarcely a week passed but I had to correct the working in several places."
Have your system operated by The Expert.

WINNERS OF £1,000:

R. P. Weeks, 50, Bailey Street, Brynmawr, Brecon, S. Wales;
G. W. Webb, Market Place Chambers, Reading.

WINNERS OF £500:

E. M. Hughes, Tan-Lan, Bethesda, N. Wales; C. J. Goulter, 1, St. George's Road, Kingston Hill; W. Hargrave, Royal Marine Infirmary, Deal; J. J. Richards, 9, Shannon Grove, Brixton, S.W.; A. B. Wyatt, 3, Falmer Road, Enfield, Middlesex; W. H. Blackshaw, The Lea, Denham, Bucks; C. Colchin, Junr., Woolpack Inn, Iwade, Kent; F. Smith, 241, High Street, Porth, Glam.; T. Phillips, 34, The Park, Treharris; W. H. Cowdery, Forester's Arms, Coxgreen, Maidenhead; B. Ainley, 10, Hamilton Street, Old Trafford, Manchester.

"JOHN BULL" on Feb. 1st stated: "Each sweep promoted by H. DIAMOND is absolutely straight."

WINNERS OF £200:

C. M. Davies, Whitby House, Priory Hill, Milford Haven; T. Sandalls, The School Lane, Cookham Dean, Berks.

"MODERN LIFE" said, Aug. 8th. 'Mr. H. Diamond's Drawings are all absolutely fair and straightforward. We are convinced he is straight and honest.'

H. DIAMOND

LUCERNE SWITZERLAND

Letter Postage 2½. Post Cards1

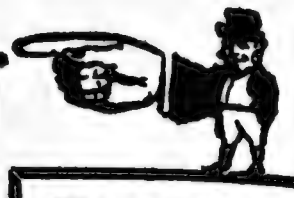
£500!

YOUR SKILL CAN WIN YOU THIS HUGE PRIZE!

Now the Evenings are drawing in, "BULLETS" offers an ideal opportunity of combining pleasure with profit. There are 5173 Prizes to be won this week, so SEND IN YOUR COUPON NOW.

FIRST PRIZE

£500



FIRST PRIZE

2nd Prize	3rd Prize	20 Prizes of
£50	£25	£5 EACH

50 CASH PRIZES OF 10s. Each. **100 CASH PRIZES OF 5s. Each.**

4,000 HANDSOME PRIZES VALUE £900

AND 1,000 CASH PRIZES OF 2s. 6d.

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

JOHN REDMOND	BETWEEN THE POSTS	BANKING	OPEN TO INSPECTION	NOTHING LIKE IT
PLAYING THE KING	DON'T	GAME OF CHANCE	UNIFORM ADMIRATION	BIG UNDERTAKING
LAND CAMPAIGN	CROSSING THE ATLANTIC	HOME INDUSTRY	BLACK OUTLOOK	DECEIVERS EVER
VERY THRILLING	BY THE WAY	ARTS AND CRAFTS	MY THEORY	AMAZING FEAT
MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS	NEW MAID	A SWELL AFFAIR	THROWING RICE	INSOLVENT
ON THE STUMP	LATE ARRIVAL	HUGGING A DELUSION	SHANKS' PONY	HOPES AND FEARS
LOST APPETITE	SECOND HELPING	REVENGE	FOOTING THE BILL	SOUND ADVICE
FIGHTING THE FLAMES	NO GENTLEMEN	AMONG THIEVES	COME INSIDE	A BIG RESPONSIBILITY

"Bullets" is the leading skill competition with most prizes and is the ONLY Competition in which EVERY Coupon received isjudgedby TWO DIFFERENT ADJUDICATORS.

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST and LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example, "GamE of Chance," and take the letters, "G" and "E," using the word "by" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet "Enjoyed by Gamblers."

From the example, "A Big Responsibility," the Bullet "Starting Business" can be formed.

Again, if you take the example "Revenge," using the letter "R" for both the first and last word, you can form the Bullet, "Rarely Much Relished."

Competitors may send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence. But if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition are in no way debarred from winning again.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

Competitors can see The "Bullets" Judges at work at any time.

Closing date, Wednesday, October 29th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(56) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 635.

Signed _____

Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL," dated November 1st.

Closing date, Wednesday, October 29th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(56) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 635.

Signed _____

Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must Be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 56," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

THE RESULT OF THIS COMPETITION WILL APPEAR IN OUR ISSUE DATED NOVEMBER 15TH.

RESULT OF 53RD BULLETS COMPETITION.

FIRST PRIZE OF £1.000:—

Mr. SYDNEY B. PERRY,
"Penvale," St. Austell,
Cornwall.

Example.—CHURCH PARADE.
Bullet.—CONGREGATION "NODDING" AGAIN.

SECOND PRIZE OF £50:—

Mr. ERNEST F. WILKINSON,
14, Alcester Road,
Nether Edge, Sheffield.

Example.—CORPORATION.
Bullet.—A "SQUARED" CIRCLE.

THIRD PRIZE OF £25:—

Mr. H. J. SMITH,
15, Leylang Road,
New Cross, London, S.E.

Example.—DODGING TRAFFIC.
Bullet.—FUNKED—NOW DEFUNCT.

20 PRIZEWINNERS of £5 Each.

Mrs. B. MAYNE, 51, Westcroft Square, Hammersmith:
MAKING BULLETS—EVOLVING THOUGHT TABLOIDS.
Mr. J. MCNAUGHTON, 17, Senior Street, Paddington:
SAFETY IN NUMBERS—RAILINGS—SATURDAY NIGHT.
Mr. C. BURTON, Hartford Stores, Hartford, Hunts:
SPECIALLY SELECTED—PEW NEAREST DOOR.
Miss ELSIE ARMSTRONG, 25, Hampton Road, Forest Gate:
BACHELOR OF ARTS—THE WOULDN'T SPOON.
Mr. T. DUNCAN, 59, Landressy Street, Glasgow:
CORPORATION—"INCREASES" BY "CONTRACTING."
Mr. S. W. BURDEN, Beaumont, 15, Carvoza Road, Truro:
ON THE BENCH—EVIL "LIVERS" OCCASIONALLY.
Mr. M. H. LANGFORD, 76, St. Asaph Road, Brockley, S.E.
ANCIENT HISTORY—"EVERYBODY ELSE'S" ANECDOTES.
Mr. F. S. RAINER 117, Dulwich Village, S.E.:
ALWAYS IN TROUBLE—BLACKMAIL PAID ONCE.
Mr. I. F. ELGIE, 137, Fagley Road, Bradford:
CORPORATION—OFTEN "MENU" ADMIRE.
Mr. E. RAYBOULD, 30, Spekeland Road, Liverpool:
UNEXPECTED PLEASURE—SKATER CATCHES POST.
Mr. H. FARNHAM, Bitterne Park, Southampton:
UNEXPECTED PLEASURE—A KNIGHTHOOD SELDOM.
Mr. J. H WRIGHT, 8, St. Andrew's Road, Gosport
A WARM INVITATION—MINX OFFERS "MUFF."
Mr. A. WILLIAMS, Tuson's Corner, Brixton Hill, S.W.:
CORPORATION—ALDERMAN'S CHIN REST.
Miss R. L. ORMISTON, L.L.A., 145, Bryuhyfryd, Swansea:
A BIT OFF—INFANT PHENOMENON'S AGE.
Mr. FRANK WARD, 4, Hawkshead Road, Queen's Road, Cheetham, Manchester.
MAKING BULLETS—GENIUS PACKED SMALL.
Mrs. JOHN GALLAGHER, 55, Charlton Road, East Park Drive., Leeds:
LIGHT WEIGHT CHAMPION—HUBBY WAGE NIGHT.
Mr. J. A. MATCHAM, 21, Milton Road, Fitzhugh, Southampton.
A COOL RECEPTION—CHANCELLOR IN "PUBLIC."
Mrs. E. FLOOKS, The Gables, 56, Oakfield Road, Ilford, E.
NEVER SEEN AGAIN—"SMELT" TABBY SMELT.
Mr. JAMES ROBERTSON, 606, Dumbarton Road Partick West Glasgow.
ALWAYS IN TROUBLE—SINCE READING "LANCET."
Mrs. E. M FERRIGAN, Pittville Cottage, Portobello, Edinburgh.
UNEXPECTED PLEASURE—SUFFRAGETTES FIRE LEVINSKI'S.

20 PRIZEWINNERS of 10. Each.

Mr. PLLAY, A. J., 40, Arodene Road, Brixton Hill, S.W.
Mr. BBES, A., 110, Castle Street, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
Mr. RHAM, C. R., Middlesex Street, Barnsley.
Miss ACKIE, MARIE E., 95, Bricry Field, Frizinghall, Bradford
Mr. AKE, H., Saxonhurst, Hamble, Southampton.
Mr. ASCHARD, J. H., 2, Milton Road, Woolston, Southampton.
Mr. RETON, N., Groesffordd, Penmaenmawr.
Mr. EALES, R. (Capt.), 4, Mc chiston Park, Edinburgh.
Mr. DEN, S., 4, The Parade, Birmingham.
Mr. URTENAY, AILEEN, 8, Cowper Street, Leeds.

CROPPER W., 70, Kirkland, Kendal.
DALE, W., c.o. Mrs. Foreman, 7, Monson Rd., Harlesden, N.W.
DANIEL, A., (Mrs.), 15, Mount Road, Birkenhead.
DEAN, H., 3, Youngs Road, Alton, Hants.
EMERY, S. H., 26, Hopwood Street, Hull.
EMERY L. J., 233, London Road, Reading, Berks.
EGHURST, W. H., Wardley Hall, Pelaw-on-Tyne, Durham.
FRICKER, A. W., 32, Station Rd., Crosshills, Keighley, Yorks.
GOODERHAM, S., 95, Gleneagle Road, Streatham, S.W.
GOODMAN, W. A. E., 5, F. Block, St. Mary's Bks., Chatham.
GRAY, C., 85, St. John's Rd., Kates Hill, Dudley, Worcs.
GRAY, W. P., 226, Verdant Lane, Hither Green, S.E.
GREAVES, M., 53, Green Lane, Egremont, Cheshire.
GRIFFITH, Major, Whatmer Lodge, Sturry, Kent.
GUNSTONE, T. (Mrs.), 29, Brintons Road, Southampton.
HAYES, F., 127, Lavender Sweep, London, S.W.
HENDERSON, D. G. (Miss), 570, George Street, Aberdeen.
HOMER, T. W., 92, Ingelow Road, Lavender Hill, S.W.
HUDSON, J. (Rev.), 325, Southampton Street, Camberwell, S.E.
KNUTTON, A. (Mrs.), 83, Princes Street, Stockport.
LEWIS, J., 18, Farquhar Road, Upper Norwood, S.E.
MADGE, E. (Mrs.), 40, Tranmere Road, Earlsfield, S.W.
MARKS, A. (Mrs.), 24, Cemetery Road, Worksop, Notts.
MASON, H. H, 88, St. Mark's Road, Salisbury, Wilts.
MASTERMAN, F., 37, Pond Street, Hampstead, N.W.
NEWELL, H., 11, Bishopsgate, London, E.C.
PATTERSON, T. J., 2, Havelock Street, Newport, Mon
PILGRIM, G. B., Hairdresser, 46, Sussex Street, Nottingham.
POTTER, C. (Mrs.), Newbiggin, Dacre, Penrith.
PUTTEN T. VAN, Halsey House, Red Lion Square, W.C.
ROBINSON, J., c.o Sunbeam Motor Car Co., 62, Oxford St., W.
SCOTT, T., 31, Wentworth Street, Beswick, Manchester.
SCOTT, H., 3, Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W.
STOCK, A. (Mrs.), 66, Winnie Street, Moston, Manchester.
STOTHARD, J. E., 25, Ashwood Terrace, Sunderland.
STRINGFELLOW, W. H., 157, Foxglove Road, Shiregreen, Sheffield.
TONGE, J. W., Fish Dock, Boston, Lincs.
WILLIAMS, V. (Mrs.), Fo, Lewis Buildings, Liverpool Rd., N.
WILLIS F., 16 Marquis Road, Camden Town, N.W.
WRIGHT, E. (Mrs.), 8, Atkinson Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The following "Hat Trick" Prizes of 10s. 6d. each have been awarded to:—

BLOYCE, F. W., 17, Nightingale Road, Hanwell, W.
BRETNEY, C., 6, Norman Place, Roundhay, Leeds.
BROOKS, H. H., 86, Adeney Road, Hammersmith, W.
BROWNLEE, P., Hopetoun Terrace, Bo'ness, N.B.
CHAMPKIN, E., 64, Rue La Boetie, Paris
CLIFT (M.s)., 66, King Alfred Street. Derby.
DALE, F. H., The Normanton Hotel, Derby.
DAVIES, J. M., Carn Ingli, Richmond Rd., Abertillery, Mon.
DENDY, T. J., 3, Florence Cottage, Florence Road, Kingston, Surrey.
DREGHORN, L. B., 34, Whitehall Place, Aberdeen, N.B.
FELLOWS, L. E., 9, Laura Place, Bath.
GRATION, A. W., 1, Swift Street, Barnley.
HOLMWOOD, C., 1, James Street, Portobello, Edinburgh.
JAMIESON, H., 56, Upper Kessock Street, Inverness.
KENNY, R. A., 61, Restalrig Road, Leith.
KELLETT, D. Mrs.), East Dereham, Norfolk.
LONG, J., Poplar Cottage, Edward Gardens, South Benwell, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
MORGAN, J., 3, Richmond Terrace, Tredegar.
MORLEY, F. J., High Street, Hurstpierpoint.
ORNSBY, A., 26, King Street, North Shields.
PIERSON, D., 34, Leases Park Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
STYKES, H. T., 56, Chertsey Street, Guildford.
SUTHERLAND, H. C., 15, Dell Road, Grays, Essex.
SMITH, E. R. Miss), Staff Wilts County Asylum, Devizes,
THOM, R., 1, McKerrell Street, Paisley.
THOMASSET, M. (Mrs.), Ray's Cottage, Binstead, Ryde, I.O.W
TURNER, F., 5, Blenheim Square, Leeds.
VAUGHAN, E., 36, Stanton Street, Peckham, S.E.
WARREN, J., Amersham House, Station Rd., Clacton-on-Sea.
WADDELL, J. S., The Hayling Studio, Leiston.
WATTS, R. W., 28, Dalrymple Road, City Road, Bristol.
WEBB, R. H., 49, Regent Street, Gloucester.
WHYTE, H. J., 15, Brelade Road, Stoneycroft, Liverpool.
YATES, M., (Miss), Felsted School, Essex.
YEO, W., 5, West End Lane, Kilburn, N.W.
YORK, A., 3, Cheltenham Crescent, Bristol.

A selection from list of 5s. winners.

Armistead, J., 7, Carter-ter., Whitkirk, Leeds.
Austen, A. J., 6, Rose-hill, West Cliff, Ramsgate.
Barton, Mrs. A., Selby Lodge, Keyworth, Notts.
Bell, J., 64, Carnwath-rd., Carluke, N.B.
Bellamy, Mrs. J., 8, Meadowbank-cres., Edinburgh.
Blythe, G. A., 5, Cliff-rd., Hyde Park Corner, Leeds.
Bore, A. R., 6, Park-rd., E. Twickenham.
Bowman, H., 36, Sheepridge-rd., Sheepridge, Huddersfield.
Bridge, H. G., 25, Melrose-av., Cricklewood.
Briggs, A., Westfield House, Wyke, Bradford.
Bringhurst, Miss H. F., 13a, Porchester-rd, Bayswater, W.
Brown, R. W., 41, Tylney-rd., Park, Sheffield.
Burrell, Mrs. M., 53, Gardenia-rd., Enfield.
Butteriss, Mrs. B., 113, Hudson-rd., Plumstead, S.E.
Chapman, J. R., 49, Derby-st., Cobridge, Stoke-on-Trent.
Clarkson, G., 64, Avenue-hill, Harehill, Leeds.
Clymer, Edith, Bedford House, Chartham, nr. Canterbury.
Cole, W. W., Glenwood, Elmstone-rd., Ramsgate.
Corbin, A. F., 39, Avenue-rd., Bournemouth.
Dawson, A. H., Highgate House, Oakes, Huddersfield.
Dean, Mrs. W. H., 10, Mitchells-yard, Dale-st., Ossett, Yorks.
Denholm, T., 71, Bangor-rd., Leith, N.B.
Easey, G, 127, Tower Hamlets-rd., Forest Gate.
Edmonds, R., 21, The Avenue, Hornsey, N.
Esson, Mrs. J. R., 214, Dalkieth-rd., Edinburgh.
Evans, A. C., 21, Shardeloemy-rd., New Cross.
Eveleigh, H., 94, Chelverton-rd., Putney.
Flawn, Corpl. A., 135 Battery R.F.A., Woolwich, S.E.
Fraser, J. B., 47, Frankfort-st., Crossinglool, Glasgow.
Fulcher, C., 18, Northumberland-rd., Dublin.
Glenrose, C., 18, Lime-grove, Shepherd's Bush, W.
Glover, T., 39, Idlecombe-rd., Tooting
Godfree, S., 35, Strawbury Dale-av., Harrogate, Yorks.
Gower, Mrs. H., 55, Caerleon-rd., Newport, Mon.
Graham, A., 7, Murdieston-st., Greenock.
Greenall, R. G., Union Offices, Lancaster-rd., Preston.
Hall, A., 64, High-st., Blackpool
Hall, Miss N. G., 14, Wote-st., Basing toke.
Harris, W., 43, Stockton-rd., Newport, Mon.
Harbutt, W., 32, Liverpool-rd., Islington.
Harrison, C., Biddulph Moor, Congleton, Ches.
Harrison, J. B., 34, Fife-rd., Darlington.
Hills, F., 43, Broyle-rd., Chichester.
Hinson, Mrs. F., Broomwood, Gardenwalk, Cambridge.
Hobbs, G. F., c/o Cartlands Ltd., Birmingham.
Holt, J., 165, North-rd., St. Helens, Lancs.
Hope, Mrs., 1, St. John-st, Walkden, Manchester.
Hudson, S., 44, Westbourne-gdns., Hove.
Hulse, H., 145, Alkington-rd., Whitchurch, Salop.
Hutson, A. G., 25, Pretoria-rd., Cambridge.
Irvine, J. W., 4, Edmiston-st., Parkhead, Glasgow.
Jenkin, Mrs. A., 412, Oldham-rd., Failsworth, Manchester.
Jones, F., 59, Lady Tyler-ter., Rhymney, Mon.
Jones, D., Green-ter., Scaton Carew, West Hartlepool.
Keating, L. J., 3, Hayfield-st., Stanley Park, Liverpool.
Lamb, Amy, The Levels, Sale, Ches.

"BULLETS" RULES (*which must be strictly adhered to*).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Editor, and his special staff of adjudicators, is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit. In deciding prizes, originality and aptness will be taken into account. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on page 634 and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed ——— & Co Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date ——— sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.

4. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.

5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, October 29th.

6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

7. The Editor's decision on any matter in dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry

No element of chance enters into the adjudication of our "Bullets" Competition. Every coupon is judged by TWO DIFFERENT Members of our special staff of Adjudicators, who have been elected by reason of their high qualification for this work. This staff put aside all coupons which they consider sufficiently meritorious to qualify for a prize. So that, before any coupon is rejected, TWO DIFFERENT Judges have to decide that it is not of sufficient merit to receive a prize. Then, all coupons selected are considered by the Competition Editor in consultation with the Judges. In this manner the coupons are reduced in number to correspond with the total number of prizes to be awarded. The Competition Editor, again in consultation with the Judges, next selects all the lines of outstanding merit. These are placed before the Editor, who, after consultation, decides finally the order of merit. This system of judging keeps a large staff of Adjudicators continually occupied the whole of the week—so thoroughly is the work done. We would point out that, by this system of judging, no award is decided arbitrarily by one mind. It is only after a line has been considered sufficiently meritorious by a BODY OF JUDGES IN CONSULTATION, all of whom are specially qualified for the work, that it can receive a cash or any other prize. As regards the principal prizes, the coupons of outstanding merit are considered many times by the Editor, and also by the Competition Editor and the adjudication staff, in consultation, before the final awards are made. In a sentence, ALL coupons are read and considered, and re-read and re-considered by a specially selected staff of highly-qualified Adjudicators, under the general supervision of an experienced Competition Expert—and in consultation with the Editor. That is why "Bullets" constitute a genuine skill contest, free from any and every element of arbitrary decision or of chance selection.

Complete List of 1,000 Prize-winners of 2s. 6d. each, and all other Prize-winners in the above Competition can be seen at the "John Bull" Offices.

Racing Notes.

Except to mention the fact that once more the best thing of the week, in Santair, got home for us, last week's racing may be left to the lamentations of unfortunate backers. On most hands the Cambridgeshire is reckoned pretty good for the favourite,

FAIRY KING,

and if only half is true as to what we hear he can do with such as Thistleton and Ambush, the race must be very nearly all over.

Prophetic

At Gatwick to-day (Wednesday) the best thing appears to be the

PAPOLA COLT.

for the County Nursery. When so heavily backed at Newmarket last week he got badly off, but yet ran well. NEVILLE HOLT ought to take the Charlwood Handicap, and DRAUGHTSMAN the Surrey Plate. Newcastle is also on to-day, and there NEWLAY in the Astley Nursery and ROSEY INA in the Autumn Handicap should be worth support.

Sandown follows on the next three days, Saturday's programme being under National Hunt Rules. To-morrow (Thursday) KING'S SCHOLAR, a good colt, should take the Orleans Nursery, and TOLLENDAL the Hersham T.Y.O. Selling Plate, whilst the best thing of the day looks to be

CASTELLAN

in the Temple Handicap. On Friday THE QUACK in the Trafalgar Selling Nursery will show material improvement on her Kempton running, whilst KHERI should secure the Great Sapling Plate. The best thing of the week occurs here in

ERMINE*

for the Wheatsheaf Handicap.

The sport here will conclude with the ever popular jumping day. It is, however, impossible until the leppers have got into form to give any predictions with confidence. This meeting was in times gone by our Editor's happy hunting ground, and knowing the mare to be fit, we think

SILVER CHERRY

should win the Norbiton Hurdle Race.

There is flat racing at Stockton on Saturday, and there

SANDS O' DEE

in the Blytheholme Nursery should prove the best thing.

SPORTING REPLIES.

The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith.

"JOHN BULL" FOOTBALL CUP SWEEP.—F. M4I. (Port Glasgow).—In the circumstances you mention you should certainly fill your own name in the two counterfoils and send the whole lot together, with remittance.——HOPEFUL.—Yes, immediately after the Draw, at the end of the year, prizes will be paid weekly according to the results of the various matches in the round-proper. We hope your nom de plume will be justified.——C. L. J. (Dundee).—You are a cautious Scot, but why did you trouble to refer to the Bank? Don't you know that "If you see it in JOHN BULL, it *is* so"?

PATRICK O'BRIEN (Lucerne).—COLONIAL.—We understand that it was impracticable to cater for colonial subscribers in the case of the Cambridgeshire Sweep, but that ample opportunity will be afforded them in future events.

H. DIAMOND'S MANCHESTER NOVEMBER HANDICAP SWEEP.—W. L. (Cheshire).—Yes. This is perfectly genuine. As regards the commission agent you mention, we can only say that any complaints which have reached us have, in our opinion, been promptly and fairly dealt with.

GALE'S SPECIAL.—CURIOUS (Belfast).—Quite reliable, but we know nothing about the other firm you mention.

H. T. TERRY (Geneva).—H. L. (Islington).—Yes, Mr. Terry is a partner in the well-known firm of Smallman and Terry, and is perfectly straight. We trust that the tickets for which you have applied to the firm have reached you by this time. See our article on page 628.

DOUGLAS STUART.—W. M. (Hinckley).—A thoroughly reliable Turf accountant, in a very large way of business.

BOUVERET TURF CLUB.—A. B. C. (Dublin).—We do not recommend this "Club's" Sweepstakes.——J. S. (Highbury).—The foregoing reply answers your inquiry. Messrs. White, Fisher and Co. are a respectable firm. *Gale's Special* is quite reliable.

ARTHUR BERESFORD (53a, Shaftesbury Avenue).—W. M. (West Green).—We do not recommend dealings. He has nothing to do with the well-known J. Beresford, of Birmingham.

ALFRED H. MAURICE (Birsfelden).—H. A. (Wakefield).—We have no information, and advise you to confine your business to those firms of whose methods we have special knowledge.

CALCUTTA VICEROY'S CUP SWEEP.—W. P. C. (Cairo).—Tell your chaps to have nothing to do with this Sweepstake. We are always glad to protect Tommy Atkins.

THE INTERNATIONAL TURF DRAW SYNDICATE (Milan).—UMLUNGU.—Have nothing to do with this. Many thanks for your interesting letter and good wishes.

PATRICK FARLEY (Glasgow).—KING.—You state that you are unable to obtain your winnings from this Turf accountant. We are afraid you have no legal remedy.

CALCUTTA DERBY SWEEPSTAKE.—TIPPIT (London, E.) AND OTHERS.—We understand that tickets are now only issued to members of the Calcutta Turf Club.

A. F. SMALLMAN (Geneva).—FOOTER.—One of the best-known and most respected men in the sporting world, who has worked up a huge football business. See our article on page 628.

We have to repeat that we cannot undertake to adjudicate upon betting disputes, except in cases where such disputes may be referred to us by arrangement between any of our advertisers and their clients.

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Football Selections from the Principal Papers.

Matches to be played Saturday, 25th October, 1913.

In view of the enormous interest now taken in the competitions conducted by numerous papers, the following table of selections compiled from the principal football authorities will be found to be an extremely useful guide—

	Matches played on ground of first-named team.	Last Season's Result.	JOHN BULL	The Umpire.	News of the World.	Weekly Dispatch.	Competitors Guide.	Sunday Chronicle.	Sporting Gossip.	Lethnga's Weekly.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE—1ST LEAGUE—	Aston V. v. Chelsea	Aston V. won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Bradford City v. Sunderland ..	Sunderland won	Home	Home	Home	Away	Home	Draw	Home	Home
	Derby Co. v. W. Bromwich A. ..	West Brom. won	Away	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Away	Draw	Home
	Liverpool v. Oldham A. ..	Liverpool won	Draw	Away	Draw	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home
	Manchester C. v. Everton ..	Manchester C. won	Home	Home	Away	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home
	Middlesbrough v. Bolton W. ..	Middlesbro won	Draw	Away	Home	Home	Away	Away	Draw	Home
	Newcastle United v. Manchester U.	Manchester U. won	Away	Away	Home	Draw	Draw	Draw	Home	Home
	Preston North End v. Burnley ..	No match	Away	Away	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Away	Draw
	Sheffield United v. Sheffield W.	Sheffield W. won	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Tottenham H. v. Blackburn Rovers	Blackburn won	Away	Away	Away	Away	Draw	Draw	Draw	Draw
	Barnsley v. Leeds City ..	Barnsley won	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Blackpool v. Woolwich A. ..	No match	Away	Draw	Away	Draw	Away	Away	Away	Away
	Bury v. Bristol C. ..	Bristol won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Fulham v. Notts Forest ..	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Huddersfield T. v. Birmingham	Draw	Away	Home	Away	Home	Draw	Draw	Home	Home
	Hull City v. Clayton Orient ..	Hull City won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Leicester Fosse v. Stockport Co	Leicester F. won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Lincoln City v. Grimsby Town ..	Lincoln C. won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Away
	Notts County v. Bradford ..	No match	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Wolverhampton W. v. Glossop ..	Wolverhampton won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Bristol Rovers v. Watford ..	Draw	Home	Away	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home	Home
	Merthyr Town v. Coventry City ..	Draw	Draw	Home	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
	West Ham U. v. Crystal Palace	Draw	Away	Draw	Home	Away	Draw	Home	Home	Home
	Plymouth A. v. Reading ..	Reading won	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home
	Queen's Pk. R. v. Southampton	Queens P. R. won	Home	Away	Home	Home	Draw	Draw	Home	Home
	Swindon Town v. Norwich City ..	Swindon won	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw
	Cardiff City v. Gillingham ..	No match	Home	Away	Draw	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Draw
	Exeter City v. Northampton ..	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Away	Home	Home
	Millwall A. v. Southend U.	No match	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home
	Portsmouth v. Brighton & H. ..	Portsmouth won	Draw	Home	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home

PATRICK O'BRIEN'S

CAMBRIDGESHIRE SWEEP

(Run October 29th, 1913).

To the drawer of the Winning horse	**£2,000**
" " " " " Second "	**1,000**
" " " " " Third "	**500**
Divided amongst actual Starters	**500**
" " Entries (non-starters)	**750**
50 Consolation Prizes	**250**

Drawn October 18th, 1913, HORATIO BOTTOMLEY, Esq. (Editor of "JOHN BULL,") presiding.

LIST OF PRIZEWINNERS.

Participants wishing to receive a full result sheet, post free, have only to send their names and addresses (quoting the number of any ticket held) to—**PATRICK O'BRIEN, LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND.**

The full result sheet has already been posted to those who have sent an addressed envelope for the purpose.

[illegible]	30105	Ecuavmity	061	Mustapha	34119	Sleipner	17935
[illegible]	3615	Eton Boy	5492	Oliver Goldsmith	52481	Sobieski	18537
[illegible]	21058	Fairy King	40565	Oiseau Bleu	47222	Subterranean	42948
[illegible]	062	Florist	39332	Oselle	51178	Sun Yat	39331
[illegible]	34137	Hamerton	37609	Outram	14223	Talana Hill	36891
[illegible]	34161	Hippeastrum	35621	Radio	39072	Thistleton	16070
[illegible]	24363	Honey Bee	19375	Rather Bolder	13214	Tripolette	20002
Bachelor's Hope	43246	Jameson	40000	St. Edgar	39440	Tuxedo	7460
Bachelor's Luck	42398	Jarnac II.	10213	St. Melruan	58354	Uncle Pat	15851
Beethoven	20971	Junior	19520	Sands of Time	78333	Wagstaff	36942
Cantilon	3621	Khedive III.	68151	Santa Bellis	16499	White Magic	10308
Bill of Rights	37239	Kingsborough	4791	Santair	1499	Whroo	64534
Blue stone	1903	Knuck na Corriga	14936	Seremond	2815	Willy Nilly	5581
Carbon Rose	40491	La Boheme	18045	Short Grass	66772	Wise Mac	40206
Corrovium	10060	Lady Galette	66477	Sir Martin	14193		
Cuckler	37643	Lance Chest	17265				
Cantilever	3149	Le Toquet	3441	**CONSOLATION PRIZES.**			
Catmint	9329	Light Brigade	9736	16274	70968	38981	76331	72574
Charing Cross III	62218	Limon	21589	49585	61657	36920	65581	35692
Clovelly	2816	Long Set	4651	57263	9016	1753	31558	50013
Cromwar	38622	Lorenzo	9319	5234	62057	53546	21799	56466
Dalton	15581	Maiden Erlegh	10880	12285	60001	87	31538	22615
Dick's	9705	Manley Hall	49998	61031	46030	9828	67996	17031
Eberhigh	58453	Marcellinus	36923	23970	41755	9208	78510	37373
Drainage	1438	Mercutio	56814	21487	3591	29531	60357	23586
Fifth Page	37509	Mohacz	69636	14284	36962	12112	55077	49165
Fleet Page	31370	Moscasto	1376	40492	77580	14789	42853	54505

RESULT of the DRAW for the TOTALISATOR SWEEP on the CESAREWITCH.

Drawn October 7th.

TOTAL AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED. £2.605.

WINNER (£1,042).

Paid to Mrs. MILLER, Littlewick Green, Maidenhead.

SECOND HORSE (£260 10 0).

Paid to H. FREEMAN, Esq., 39, Streatley Road, Brondesbury, London.

THIRD HORSE (£130 5 0).

Paid to "W. T. B.," Chesterfield (Full name and address lodged with the Editor of this paper.)

21 Other Starters received £18 12 1 each; and 77 Non-Starters, £10 3 0 each.

"JOHN BULL" October 18th: "The draw for the 5/- Cesarewitch Sweep, promoted by the Totalisator, of which Mr. Cullerne-Bown is the managing director, took place on the 7th inst., at the offices in Lucerne. The draw was supervised by London pressmen. Our own representative took a prominent part, and satisfied himself that the proceedings were, as usual, above suspicion. The prize money for the Sweepstake is £2,605, which exceeds the sum paid out on the St. Leger, despite the fact that the sweep was advertised only a month. So popular have these Totalisator Sweeps become, that it is confidently expected that the prize money for the Manchester November Handicap Sweepstake, which will be drawn for on November 8th, will exceed the amount given in either of the above events. The high standing attained by the Totalisator, under the capable and honest management of Mr. Cullerne-Bown, has evidently gained the confidence of the sporting public."

Terms for the MANCHESTER NOVEMBER HANDICAP free on application.

THE TOTALISATOR, LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND.

(Ltd. 1908.) **Managing Director—H. CULLERNE-BOWN.**

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SHORT SHEET FOR OCTOBER 25th.

Liverpool	v. Oldham	West Ham U.	v. Crystal Palace
Manchester City	v. Everton	Cardiff	v. Gillingham
Middlesbrough	v. Bolton W.	Exeter City	v. Northampton
Newcastle U.	v. Manchester U.	Queen's Park	v. Morton
Preston N. End	v. Burnley	Derby County	v. W. Bromwich
Tottenham H.	v. Blackburn R.	Huddersfield	v. Birmingham
Blackpool	v. Woolwich	Clyde	v. Airdrieonians
Bristol Rovers	v. Watford	Motherwell	v. Hibernians

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